



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1939



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Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Whole-time Officers of the County Council.

County Medical Officer of Health—

C. M. SMITH, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy—

J. H. CRANE, M.B.E., B.A., M.D., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Assistants—

J. A. ROUGHEAD, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Senior Assistant).

T. O. GARLAND, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

J. A. A. DUNCAN, M.C., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H. (until 7th October, 1939).

MARY G. H. DICKSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

D. A. MCCrackEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 1st March, 1939).

Clinical Tuberculosis Officer—

G. B. LORD, M.D., Ch.B.

County Mental Hospital, Berrywood ;

Resident Medical Superintendent—

E. D. T. HAYES, B.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.M.

Deputy Medical Superintendent—

C. A. KEANE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Assistant Medical Officers—

F. A. FRANK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M.

R. W. MAXWELL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

J. A. KILPATRICK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Rushden House Sanatorium ;

Resident Medical Superintendent—

DR. J. H. CRANE.

Assistant Resident Medical Superintendent—

R. B. MURPHY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers—

DR. C. M. SMITH.

J. PERRY WALKER, M.B., Ch.B. (Senior Assistant).

META J. NEWTON, M.B., Ch.B.

DR. J. A. ROUGHEAD.

DR. T. O. GARLAND.

DR. J. A. A. DUNCAN.

DR. M. G. H. DICKSON.

DR. D. A. MCCrackEN.

School Oculist—

DR. J. PERRY WALKER.

Dental Surgeons (School)—

P. B. CAMPION, L.D.S. (Senior Dentist).
 MISS M. C. DIXON, L.D.S.
 B. H. FILLINGHAM, L.D.S.
 MISS P. B. CHALK, L.D.S. (until 31st January, 1939).
 W. MCKAY, L.D.S.
 R. D. R. HOPKINSON, L.D.S.
 N. M. POULTER, L.D.S. (from 1st February, 1939).

*Food and Drugs Act.**Chief Inspector—*

A. E. WALLER.

Superintendent Health Visitor—

MISS A. E. ROBINSON.

County Health Visitors—

MISS M. E. WHITEHOUSE.
 MISS F. M. SHARPE.
 MISS S. L. WILKINS.
 MISS M. H. PANTON.
 MISS S. J. DEVERS.
 MISS M. H. MEADLEY.
 MRS. E. FORD (temporary).
 MISS D. B. PREWETT.
 MISS G. B. B. MILLGATE.
 MISS R. H. CROMPTON.
 MISS M. M. C. MILNE (until 30th November, 1939).
 MISS K. P. GREEN.
 MISS M. A. CLARK.
 MISS S. H. BUCHANAN.
 MISS L. H. WAUGH.
 MISS M. I. CHARLTON (until 16th December, 1939).
 MISS M. W. DODD (until 1st December, 1939).
 MISS E. MYERSCOUGH.
 MISS H. M. ROSSER.
 MISS C. M. WHEATLEY.
 MISS M. IRONS (until 30th November, 1939).

Matron of Rushden House (Tuberculosis) Sanatorium—

MISS H. WILLIAMS.

Mental Welfare Worker—

MISS K. M. HOBBS.

Assistant County Sanitary Inspector—

S. HARRIS, Cert.S.I.B.

Assistant Bacteriologist—

MISS M. P. SMITH.

Clerical Staff—

T. MOSSEY (Chief Clerk).
 P. J. CHAMBERLAIN.
 S. E. BIERTON.
 R. J. BRUCE.
 E. PRIOR.
 P. H. J. WILKINSON.
 J. A. MUNTON.
 S. A. CROUCH.
 M. E. DORR (from 17th April, 1939).

(b) Part-time Officers of the Authority and others discharging duties for the Authority.*Consulting Obstetrician.*

R. WATSON, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), M.R.C.O.G., The Avenue, Cliftonville, Northampton (Telephone, 3103).

Supervisor of Midwives.

MISS E. M. CROCKER, County Superintendent and Secretary, Northamptonshire Nursing Association, Guildhall Road, Northampton (Telephone, 850).

The following changes have taken place since the issue of the Annual Report for 1938 :—

*District Medical Officers of Health.***Borough of Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough and Rushden Urban Districts.**

DR. D. A. MCCrackEN, Rushden, from 1st March, 1939, *vice* DR. J. A. ROUGHED, transferred.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GUILDHALL ROAD,
NORTHAMPTON.

December, 1940.

To the Chairman and members of the Northamptonshire County Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Forty-Third Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health for the year 1939.

In accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health the report is considerably abbreviated, but in view of the importance of maintaining and strengthening the Public Health Services in War time, as full a description as circumstances have allowed has been prepared of the activities of my department.

Although the preparation and execution of plans in connection with Civil Defence necessarily diverted much of the activities of the staff from their normal duties, it has been possible not only to undertake the added tasks of a purely public health nature which resulted from the War but also in some measure to extend the scope of the existing services, more especially in relation to the welfare of mothers and children.

From the public health standpoint, in 1939 the most significant effect of the War was possibly the immediate cessation of all projects requiring capital expenditure. Thus, housing progress, except in a few instances to meet the needs of agricultural workers, and schemes for water supplies and sewage disposal systems, together with plans for new hospitals and clinics, have all been necessarily postponed in order to conserve the resources of the Country for the prosecution of hostilities.

Despite the fact that the year under review included the first four months of the War, the vital statistics and incidence of infectious diseases compare favourably with recent years. The general death rate has slightly increased to 12.08 per 1,000, but on the other hand the birth rate has risen to 15.02 per 1,000, and there is pleasure in recording that the infant mortality rate is again the lowest on record, namely 40.41 per 1,000 births. Special significance is always attached to death rates from tuberculosis, which unfortunately have in previous Wars shown an ominous increase; it should be noted therefore that the death rate for this disease was 0.49 per 1,000, which is the lowest so far observed in the County.

As regards infectious conditions, the reception under the Government Evacuation Scheme of some 24,000 mothers and children in the County in early September was not as was feared followed by a rise in communicable disease during the remaining months of 1939, the reasons

being chiefly that the younger evacuee children, who constitute the age group most susceptible to infection, were taken back to London by their mothers, the weather was good and the schools worked on the double shift system so that the children spent more time in the open and further there was at that time a comparatively low incidence of infectious disease in the County.

The extent to which the Health Department was able to cope with the demand for maternity and child welfare facilities from the immigrant population is described in the report, but here it can be said that, thanks to the loyal co-operation of all members of the staff, an adequate range of health services was successfully provided. The evacuation problems of 1939 are related, however, more particularly to the school child, and have been dealt with at some length, in my report as School Medical Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES MILLIKEN SMITH,

County Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

1(a). GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Area of the Administrative County	*578,947 acres
Population (Census 1921)	211,509
(Census 1931)	217,133
(Estimated resident population, middle of 1939)	222,100
(Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates)	228,300
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921)	50,538
(Census 1931)	57,047
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921)	52,286
(Census 1931)	58,964
Rateable Value (April 1st, 1939)	£1,160,812
Actual product of a penny rate 1938-1939 (whole area)	£4,498/12/4

* *Subsequent to the extension of the boundaries of the County Borough of Northampton, on April 1st, 1932.*

1(b). VITAL STATISTICS.

The sudden changes in population arising from the operation of the Government Evacuation Scheme have necessitated special steps being taken with a view to rendering the vital statistics of the country as accurate as possible.

The Registrar General has dealt with the difficulty as follows :

BIRTH RATE. The normal practice of transferring births to the place of usual residence of the mother has been maintained throughout the year. The "population exposed to risk" in relation to which the Birth Rate is calculated must obviously be the normal population of the area, and consequently the Registrar General has given for the County an estimated mid-year population which excludes the effect of the two disturbing factors introduced by the war, namely, the calling-up of men for service and the Evacuation in September. This population figure is 222,100, and the number of births among the normally resident population was 3,336.

DEATH RATE. For the first three-quarters of the year the Registrar General has continued the normal practice of transferring deaths to the area of usual residence: for the last quarter of the year deaths have *not* been transferred so that the death of a London evacuee in Northamptonshire was returned as a death in the County. The view was taken that the immigrant population, most of whom arrived in early September, could be regarded as being on holiday in September, and as normally resident from the beginning of October. Further, deaths among members of the Services were excluded from the County return during the last quarter. The Registrar General gave as a "population exposed to risk" in relation to which death rates could be calculated a figure of 228,300, which was presumably estimated to include the additions to the County population due to the reception of evacuees, and also excluded men who had joined the Services. The number of deaths was 2,758.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE. Since deaths of infants in the last quarter were not transferred the Infant Mortality Rate has been calculated against the *total* number of births that were registered in the County, *viz.*, 3,390. The number of infant deaths was 137.

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.
Live births (Legitimate)	3,211	1,661	1,550	15.02
„ „ (Illegitimate)	125	65	60	

				Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.
Still-births	131	77	54	37.78

				DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.
Deaths	2,758	1,434	1,324	12.08†

			Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.
Deaths from puerperal causes :—			
Puerperal sepsis	—	—	
Other puerperal causes	4		1.13
Total	4		1.13

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	40.41
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	40.13
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	47.61
Deaths from (a) Cancer (all ages)	404
(b) Measles (all ages)	—
(c) Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
(d) Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	10

The birth rate of 15.0 is higher by .7 per 1,000 of the population than the rate for the year 1938, and is the same as the rate for England and Wales.

The death rate (12.0) is higher by .5 per 1,000 of the population as compared with the previous year, and is .1 below the rate for England and Wales.

The birth rate exceeded the death rate by 2.94 per 1,000 of the population.

The seven chief causes of death accounted for 66.0 per cent of the total deaths, and are led by heart disease (26.0 per cent.), cancer (14.7 per cent.), cerebral haemorrhage (7.0 per cent.), other circulatory diseases (6.1 per cent.), senility (5.1 per cent.), other violence (3.6 per cent.), pneumonia (3.5 per cent.). The first five causes of death occupy the same relative position as in the year 1938, and the last two take the places of pneumonia and tuberculosis of respiratory system respectively.

† See next page.

The number of deaths associated with childbirth is 50 per cent. lower than for the year 1938.

The Maternal Mortality Rates per 1,000 live and still births during the last five years have been as follows :—

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Administrative County (<i>Number of Deaths</i>)	4.00 (12)	2.84 (9)	2.17 (7)	2.41 (8)	1.13 (4)
England and Wales	3.94	3.65	3.13	2.97	2.82

The infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (40) is the lowest rate ever recorded in the County, and is 10 below that for England and Wales. The illegitimate infant mortality rate is 44.8 below the rate for the year 1938. The infant mortality rates per 1,000 births during the last ten years have been as follows :—

Infant Mortality Rate:	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Administrative County	42.1	46.1	45.5	42.0	57.2	50.6	47.9	43.8	41.1	40.4
England and Wales	60	66	65	64	59	57	59	58	53	50

† *Nett Death-Rate.*

Comparability Factors for each Urban and Rural District, and for the Administrative County as a whole, have been issued by the Registrar-General for adjusting the local death-rates for the purposes of comparison with recent years and with the crude death-rate for England and Wales.

The factor in each case may be said to represent the population handicap to be applied to the area, and, when multiplied by the crude death-rate experienced in the area, modifies the latter so as to make it comparable with the crude death-rate for the country as a whole, or with the similarly adjusted death-rate for any other area.

The factor for the Administrative County is 0.87, and this gives a nett County death-rate of 10.5, as against a crude death-rate of 12.0, and as against 12.1 for England and Wales. This death-rate of 10.5 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex constitution of the population of Northamptonshire was distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

2. AREA AND POPULATION.

There has been no change in extent in the area of the Administrative County during the year 1939, but the Order, made by the County Council on May 19th, 1938, for the formation of a new urban district to be known as the Corby Urban District, comprising the Parish of Corby, and part of the Parish of Weldon in the Kettering Rural District, came into operation on 1st April, 1939.

The population of the Administrative County is estimated by the Registrar-General to have increased by 700 on that of the year 1938.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services.

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

General laboratory facilities, including Wassermann tests are available at the Pathological Department of Northampton General Hospital.

The County Laboratory was transferred in January, 1940, from temporary premises at 40, Guildhall Road, Northampton, to the New County Offices where on the ground floor three rooms were specially chosen and equipped. The new quarters comprise a large laboratory room for examination of milk and of water, a sterilising and preparation room and a smaller bacteriological laboratory. The premises are well lit and pleasantly designed and altogether the new laboratory forms a useful adjunct to the county health services. It will be able to cope easily with all the examinations of milk, water and sewage that are likely to be required.

The following is a summary of the work done in the Laboratory during 1939 :—

No. of milk samples examined (Methylene Blue Test)	3,930
No. of milk samples examined (Plate Count)	23
No. of milk samples examined (Phosphatase Test)	11
No. of water samples examined (bacteriologically).....	107
No. of water samples examined (chemically)	—
No. of water samples examined (oxygen absorbed test)	3
	<hr/>
	4,074
	<hr/>

The totals for years 1933—8 were 459, 760, 1,491, 1,533, 2,429 and 3,100 respectively.

MILK

The 3,964 samples of milk may be classified as follows :—

Designated milk	2,673
Non-designated milk	1,214
School milk—raw 43	
pasteurised 15.....	58
Pasteurised milk	19
	<hr/>
	3,964
	<hr/>

The following table shows the results of samples (except school milk samples) examined by the Methylene Blue Reduction Test during 1939 :—(Note : Satisfactory—Passed the Methylene Blue Test. Not Satisfactory—Failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.)

MONTH	TUBERCULIN TESTED			ACCREDITED			NON-DESIGNATED			TOTAL SAMPLES
	Satis- factory	Not Satis- factory	Per- centage Satis- factory	Satis- factory	Not Satis- factory	Per- centage Satis- factory	Satis- factory	Not Satis- factory	Per- centage Satis- factory	
January	21	1	95	122	5	96	77	17	82	243
February	17	—	100	115	2	98	95	10	91	239
March	33	—	100	228	31	88	185	15	93	492
April	21	4	84	197	48	80	88	22	80	380
May	30	3	91	225	70	76	115	73	61	516
June	21	7	75	194	122	61	69	75	48	488
July	10	6	63	101	106	49	45	71	39	339
August	7	9	44	86	151	36	16	54	23	323
September	4	1	80	30	28	52	3	—	100	66*
October	12	1	92	165	31	84	8	4	67	221
November	9	2	82	125	43	74	62	20	76	261
December	10	1	91	195	23	89	86	4	96	319
TOTAL	195	35	85	1783	660	73	849	365	70	3887

NOTE : *Decrease in number of samples owing to { (1) Outbreak of war
(2) Moving of Laboratory to temporary premises.

Total samples of Designated Milk taken during 1938 1320 } 103% increase.
Total samples of Designated Milk taken during 1939 2673 }

It will be noted from the table that of the 230 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk, 195 (or 85 per cent.) complied with the requirements of the Orders, and in the case of Accredited milk, 1,783 (or 73 per cent.) out of 2,443 samples were satisfactory.

The number of non-designated samples examined (1,214) consisted of 1,123 samples of milk submitted by District Councils, 48 samples taken from applicants for licences to produce designated milk, and 43 samples of school milk.

There is no statutory test for cleanliness of non-designated milk and in its absence the standards described in last year's report are used in this county.

The 1,123 samples submitted by District Councils are classified below and compared with previous years :—

	1935		1936		1937		1938		1939	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
GOOD	647	76.9	656	72.2	808	58.0	1020	67.3	785	69.9
MODERATE	148	17.6	191	21.0	196	14.0	213	14.1	147	13.1
BAD	46	5.5	62	6.8	389	28.0	283	18.6	191	17.0
TOTALS	841	—	909	—	1393	—	1516	—	1123	—

There were collected at schools 58 samples of which 15 were of Pasteurised Milk. Of the 43 raw milk samples, 25 passed the Methylene Blue Test; of the Pasteurised Milk samples, 4 were examined by the Plate Count Method and reached the required standard and the remaining 11 all passed the Phosphatase Test.

Pasteurised Milk.

During the year the phosphatase test was introduced in the examination of samples of pasteurised milk. This test is a chemical one and failure to pass the test shows either faulty pasteurisation or the admission of raw milk.

In addition to the 15 samples from schools mentioned above, 19 samples submitted by District Councils were on examination by the Plate Count Method found to be satisfactory.

WATER.

The number of samples examined bacteriologically was 107 as against 86 examined bacteriologically and chemically in the year 1938.

The samples were submitted by District Councils and by Engineers engaged in investigating new water resources of various districts.

The 3 samples of water examined by the "oxygen absorbed test" were taken in connection with the twice-yearly Survey of the Rivers Avon and Arrow, carried out under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Other samples taken in connection with the Survey are sent to the Government Chemist who reports on them direct to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The second Survey due to be carried out in the Autumn of 1939, was prevented owing to the outbreak of war.

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

These were described in last year's report.

3. MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

The number of ascertained cases on the Register at the end of the year was 481. The Ascertainment Rate for the County is 2.08 per 1,000 of the population.

In Certified Institutions :	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Stoke Park Colony	7	4	11
Earlswood	—	1	1
Bromham House Colony	37	47	84
Kettering Public Assistance Institution	4	12	16
Wellingborough Public Assistance Institution	3	7	10
State Institutions	6	7	13
On Licence from Institutions	5	9	14
Cases under Guardianship	5	2	7
On Licence from Guardianship	—	1	1
	67	90	157
Cases under Statutory Supervision			103
Cases under Voluntary Supervision			221
Total Cases Ascertained			481

Ascertainment.

Nine cases have been referred to the Mental Deficiency Committee by the County Education Authority and six other cases by the Kettering Local Education Authority. Twenty-nine cases have been ascertained through the Public Health and Public Assistance Services.

The number of Orders made under the Mental Deficiency Acts during the year was 21.

Guardianship.

Six defectives are in the care of guardians supervised by the Brighton Guardianship Society and from the monthly reports received from the Society it would appear that these patients are happy and well cared for. Two defectives are under guardianship in the County and receive regular visits from one of the Assistant Medical Officers and from the Mental Welfare Officer.

Licence.

One male patient on licence from an Institution is in the care of a guardian supervised by the Brighton Guardianship Society. Four male and nine female patients are on licence from institutions, two males and five females being in employment. These cases are visited periodically.

Institutional Accommodation.

On the outbreak of War, Bromham House Colony was made an Emergency Hospital, thus reducing the number of beds allotted to this Council to 77.

17 cases have been certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts and admitted to Bromham House Colony during the year, and four cases have been transferred to the Colony from other institutions.

Two patients have been transferred from Certified Institutions to Mental Hospitals and one to Rampton State Institution, and two have died during the year.

Domiciliary Supervision.

Routine visits by the County Health Visitors were made to the 324 defectives under Statutory and Voluntary supervision in their homes. The Mental Welfare Officer paid 1,025 visits to the homes of defectives where closer supervision was considered desirable or where special advice or assistance was required.

Home Training.

Ten defectives are able to do simple handwork in their homes. The Mental Welfare Officer paid 45 visits of an instructional nature.

General.

The Mental Welfare Officer has acted as escort in the conveyance of 21 patients certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

109 Special Reports to the Board of Control, and Visitors to Institutions on the home circumstances of defectives have been made by the Mental Welfare Officer including special reports concerning the suitability of homes for holiday leave.

4. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This section of the report, in so far as it deals with Midwives and Maternity and Nursing Homes, refers to the whole Administrative County. The Borough of Kettering is a separate Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, and details of its Welfare work will be found in the Report of the Medical Officer of the Borough.

The maternity services were extended during the year by the opening on the 21st July, 1939, of the new County Maternity Home at the London Road Hospital, Kettering, which is administered by the Public Assistance Committee. This Home, which is separate from the main institution buildings, was erected at a cost of £7,000, and was provided with a view to concentrating treatment under one roof rather than having separate maternity wards at different places. Accommodation is provided for 12 patients.

This maternity unit, which is both well-planned and well-equipped has proved a success from the day it was opened, there being a steady demand for admission. It was intended to provide for Public Assistance patients only, but arrangements were made whereby the Public Health Committee could send patients to the Home on condition that the full cost of maintenance which was fixed at £3-3-0 per week would be guaranteed by the Committee which in turn, recovers a reasonable contribution from the patient or her relatives. The procedure for admission of patients for whom responsibility is accepted by the Public Health Committee dispenses with the need for an application being made to the Relieving Officer. These arrangements undoubtedly contributed to the success of the new Home which, in fact, soon proved to have one serious fault—it should have been built to accommodate twice the number of beds.

(i) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Midwifery Services.

No variation has been made in the arrangements for the provision by the Northamptonshire Nursing Association of a domiciliary service of midwives in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives' Act, 1936.

One permanent holiday nurse was employed by the County Nursing Association during the year. In addition, 59 nurses were employed for emergency duty and to relieve temporarily during holidays, sickness, etc.

Two nurses were receiving training during the year, and one midwife was sent for one month's post-certificate course.

The numbers of cases attended by midwives employed by District Nursing Associations in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act, 1936, were as follows :—

	1938	1939
Cases attended as midwives	1101	1149
Cases attended as maternity nurses	1019	1036
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	2120	2185
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The midwives attended 88.2 per cent. of the total births in the County—54.11 per cent. as midwives and the remainder as maternity nurses.

The number of midwives in independent practice at the end of the year was 29.

(ii) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Under an agreement between the County Council and the County Nursing Association for

the provision of special nurses in certain cases of infectious disease, nine cases of puerperal pyrexia, twenty-seven of whooping cough, eight of ophthalmia neonatorum, eight of measles, and thirty-seven cases of infantile diarrhoea were nursed in the home. Nursing care was also given in a number of other cases not strictly provided for in the agreement.

(iii) MIDWIVES.

The Supervisor of Midwives (who is also County Superintendent and Secretary of the Northamptonshire Nursing Association) and her staff made the following visits during the year :

Routine visits	306
Special investigations	199

The number of midwives practising in the area at any time during the year was 170 ; on December 31st, 116 remained in practice. Of the latter, 7 were employed in Public Assistance Institutions, 70 by the Northamptonshire Nursing Association under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives' Act, 1936, one by another association, four at Kettering and District General Hospital, one at Brackley Cottage Hospital, four in private Nursing Homes and 29 in private practice.

Six midwives who voluntarily surrendered their certificates, received compensation in accordance with the provision of Section 5 of the Midwives' Act, 1936.

No uncertified person was reported as having practised during the year.

Medical Aid to Midwives. During the financial year, the midwives notified that they had called in medical aid in 584 cases, and 353 claims for payment of fees were made by medical practitioners whose assistance had been sought (4 of which were subsequently withdrawn) as against 667 notifications and 391 claims (of which 7 were withdrawn) in the previous year. 6 claims were also brought forward from the previous year, and 12 of those received in 1939-40 will be dealt with in the following year. The patients or persons responsible were approached by the County Health Department, and 113 paid or undertook to pay the practitioner's account in full. The circumstances of 240 cases were considered by the Standing Sub-Committee of the Public Health, etc., Committee, who instructed steps to be taken to recover from the patient or person responsible the whole of the fee in 112 cases, and such part of the fee as seemed reasonable in view of the family's income in 66 cases. In 43 cases they decided to make no claim against the family. 19 other cases were in connection with babies suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum ; no claim on the family is made in such cases.

A contribution towards the fee of a midwife was given by the County Council in one necessitous case, in which the circumstances were such as to require the attendance of both medical practitioner and nurse.

Educational and Social Work. The Midwives' Union arranged 5 lectures and demonstrations, all of which were well attended. No meetings were held after September, owing to the outbreak of War.

(iv) MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

The number of homes on the register during the year was 6, and 40 visits of inspection were paid by the Assistant Medical Officer. In addition, 4 inspections were made to midwives in Kettering and District General Hospital and Kettering Public Assistance Institution.

No application for delegation of powers to a County District was received under section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Further particulars regarding the Nursing Homes in the County are given in the Statistical Section of the report.

(v) MATERNAL MORTALITY (excluding Kettering Borough).

The Registrar-General reported 4 maternal deaths, none of which was from sepsis.

1. *Heart failure.* Patient died at home, after manual removal of placenta under chloroform anaesthesia. Coroner's inquest. Ante-Natal care undertaken by own doctor and midwife.

2. *Necrosis of Kidney.* Patient died in hospital, admitted five days after incomplete abortion, brought on by toxæmia of pregnancy. No ante-natal care.

3. *Obstetric Shock.* Patient died in hospital, after long difficult labour. Ante-natal care undertaken by own doctor.

4. *Post Partum Haemorrhage.* Patient died in hospital, to which she was removed for retained placenta. Attended Ante-Natal Clinic.

The death rate per thousand live and still births was 1.31. The rate for England and Wales was 2.82 per thousand live and still births.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Sixteen notifications were received (excluding Kettering Borough), seven of the notified cases were treated in hospital; there were no deaths.

The services of Mr. R. Watson, F.R.C.S. (Ed.), M.R.C.O.G., the Consultant Obstetrician, are available to the medical profession throughout the whole of the Authority's area.

No charge is made to the medical practitioner or to the patient for Mr. Watson's services, but the scheme is applicable only to patients who cannot afford a consultant's fee. Application for these services should be made to the Health Department (Telephone : Northampton 4042 and 4043), but in emergency, can be made direct with Mr. Watson at his house, The Avenue, Cliftonville, Northampton (Telephone : Northampton 3103) and the Health Department subsequently notified of the emergency.

The examination of pathological material is provided free of charge for necessitous cases : specimens are examined at the Northampton General Hospital only.

Sulphanilamide preparations can be obtained free of charge for cases unable to afford it on the recommendation of the Consultant Obstetrician. Application should be made to the Health Department.

Hospital Accommodation : Cases of puerperal infection may be admitted to the following hospitals, on application to the Health Department by the medical practitioner :—

Northampton General Hospital ;
Kettering and District General Hospital ;
The Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby ;
Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary ;
Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford,

according to the area in which the case occurs.

(vi) OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM. Ten cases were notified (excluding Kettering Borough) all of which made a good recovery.

CASES			VISION UN- IMPAIRED	VISION IMPAIRED	TOTAL BLINDNESS	DEATHS
NOTIFIED	TREATED					
	AT HOME	IN HOSPITAL				
10	9	1	10	—	—	—

All cases were visited by the Assistant Medical Officers.

Arrangements are made with Northampton General Hospital, the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby, the Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary, and the Oxford Eye Hospital for the admission of these cases, either with or without their mothers, and no charge to the parents is made for treatment.

(vii) MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

The County Council make provision for two classes of maternity cases :

- (1) those in which the accommodation at home is unsuitable for the conduct of a confinement, and
- (2) those in which the confinement is likely to be abnormal.

Patients may be admitted to the following institutions :—

County Maternity Home, Kettering ;
Kettering and District General Hospital ;
The Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton General Hospital ;
Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary ;
Market Harborough and District Hospital ;
Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby (abnormal cases only).

Cases are admitted only on the certificate of the County Medical Officer of Health (except in emergency, when notification may be made to the Health Department after admission) and patients are required to contribute towards the cost of maintenance an amount decided upon by the Standing Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee after consideration of the financial circumstances of the family. The cases actually admitted under the arrangements of the Public Health Committee during the year were :—

County Maternity Home, Kettering	14
Kettering and District General Hospital	23
The Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton General Hospital	182
Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary	1
Market Harborough and District Hospital	—
Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby	1

The total number of cases admitted to hospital under the County arrangements was 221, compared with 207 in 1938 and 173 in 1937.

(viii) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

A new centre was opened for Cottingham and Wilbarston in October, and the military centre at Weedon was closed on 18th April, 1939. The meetings at Cottingham and Wilbarston were

held monthly. The Rushden Infant Welfare Centre was successful in the National Parentcraft competition, receiving a silver medal and the Rhondda Mothercraft Shield.

At the end of the year there were 26 Infant Welfare Centres in the County, and 8 Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal clinics were held at Corby weekly, and fortnightly at Wellingborough, Rushden and Northampton. The Byfield clinic is held on the third Wednesday in each month.

New clinics were opened in September at Thrapston, in the Baptist Rooms at 2 p.m. on the second Tuesday; at Brackley in the Methodist School Room at 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday, and by the kindness of Mrs. Woodhouse at Welford Rectory on the second Friday at 2 p.m.

The total number of attendances at all Infant Welfare Centres during the year by children under one year of age was 8,042, and by children between the ages of one and five years, 8,628, showing a total increase of 1,724 attendances on the figures of the previous year.

The total number of expectant mothers who attended County Council clinics during the year was 991* (364 in 1938). They made 2,159 attendances (759 in 1938) and 83 Post-Natal attendances. This includes 139 women evacuated under the Government Evacuation Scheme, who were seen at the regular clinics and at emergency clinics held in September at places where there were a number of evacuated expectant mothers in the district. In addition, expectant mothers from County areas may attend Ante-Natal Clinics belonging to the Kettering Borough Council, The Warwickshire County Council at their Rugby Maternity Home, The Kettering and District General Hospital and the Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton. 1,427 attendances were made by 398 expectant mothers at these clinics during the year.

For the first time the X-ray apparatus at the Wellingborough Health Centre was available for diagnosis. Two cases, one of twins and one malpresentation, were sent for this purpose.

The total number of expectant mothers attending clinics administered either by the County or by other Authorities was 1,389, and the number of attendances was 3,586 compared with 796 and 2,108 respectively in 1938.

The following statistics relate to ante-natal clinics under the control of the County Council.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

	1938	1939
No. attending for first time	364	877
Total Ante-Natal attendances	759	2,159
No. sent to hospital :		
For consultation	8	26
„ confinement (abnormality)	23	59
„ confinement (lack of accommodation)	4	63
„ Ante-Natal treatment	2	4
„ Ante-Natal treatment and confinement	1	6
„ Ante-Natal treatment and miscarriage	1	1
No. treated on district (confinement)	195	597
No. treated on district (miscarriage)	2	3

* This figure includes a number of women who made their first attendance in 1938.

ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

	Wellingborough	Northampton	Byfield	Corby	Rushden	Brackley	Thrapston	Welford	Emergency Clinics	Total
No. of sessions	22	21	15	49	22	4	4	4	5	146
Attendances —										
Primary	126	182	89	222	146	26	24	21	33	869
Subsequent	209	221	88	473	252	13	15	13	6	1290
Post Natal	7	16	8	19	32	0	1	0	0	83
Total Ante-Natal and Post-Natal	342	419	185	714	430	39	40	34	39	2242
Average attendance—										
per case	2.6	2.3	2.1	3.2	2.9	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.1	
per session	15.8	20.0	12.3	14.6	19.5	9.7	10.0	8.5	7.8	
Midwives sending cases	9	17	11	11	7	4	7	2	5	
Government Evacuation Scheme—										
Number of women who attended	10	39	8	2	27	13	0	9	31	139

CASES TERMINATED DURING 1939.

Alive Full Time	690
Premature	18
Stillborn, Full Time	19
Premature	2
Abortion or miscarriage	3
Left district	68
Not pregnant	2
Not terminated	179
Twin birth	9
Triplets	1
Maternal death	1

Consultative Ante-Natal Clinics are held weekly at Northampton General Hospital and fortnightly or weekly if required at Kettering and District General Hospital by Mr. R. Watson, the Council's Consultant Obstetrician.

Details of cases seen at these Clinics are as follows :—

	Northampton General Hospital.	Kettering and District General Hospital.
(a) No. of sessions	52	43
(b) No. of expectant mothers referred to Consultant Obstetrician by medical practitioners and examined by him in a consultative capacity at the Clinic	65	Information not available
(c) No. of patients recommended for admission on account of abnormalities and supervised at the Ante-Natal Clinic (exclusive of cases entered under heading (b))	126	12
(d) No. of cases recommended for admission on account of unsatisfactory home conditions and supervised at the Clinic...	83	—
(e) Total No. of expectant mothers who attended at the Clinic during the year	274	40
(f) Total attendances of all cases at the Clinic	1122	66

Further details with regard to Infant Welfare Centres are given in the statistical section of the report.

The Clinics organised by the Manfield Orthopædic Hospital continued their valuable work during the year, and cases were referred from time to time by the Medical Officers attending the Infant Welfare Centres. 13 children under five years of age were admitted as County Council patients to Manfield Hospital. 110 children suffering from orthopædic defects were referred to the clinics for treatment.

(ix) MILK GRANTS.

The total quantity of milk supplied by the Council amounted to 11,151½ gallons, and 926 pounds of dried milk, as compared with 7,286½ liquid gallons and 588 pounds of dried milk in the previous year. The amount of milk granted exceeds by more than 50 per cent. the grants allowed in 1938 and bears witness to the progressive policy adopted by the County Council in relation to the nutrition of the young child and the mother. The cost of the milk supplied in the financial year ended March 1940, was £1,138/19/6, compared with £921/3/7, in the previous year.

(x) NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The numbers of births notified in the area during the year under Section 203 of the Public Health Act 1936 were as follows :—

Live births 2597 ; Still births 52 ; Total 2649.

Notified by midwives	2152
Notified by doctors and parents	497

(xi) HEALTH VISITING.

At the end of the year the staff consisted of twenty-one Health Visitors and one Superintendent. Subsequent to evacuation, two Health Visitors were loaned from evacuation areas. The following is a short summary of the work of the Health Visitors (excluding school nursing) :

HEALTH VISITORS' VISITS.

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
1. Ante-Natal	247	160	195	226	242
2. Infants	23,362	23,688	25,746	27,505	26,687
3. Children 1-5 years	22,361	21,492	27,587	31,579	32,272
4. Infant Deaths	137	137	121	124	125
5. Still births	68	82	72	63	56
6. Infant Life Protection	1,144	1,094	951	928	912
7. Boarded out (P.A.C.) ...	416	533	512	442	401
8. Tuberculosis cases	1,689	1,540	2,019	3,538	3,260
9. Mental Defectives	384	255	348	439	448
10. Free milk enquiries ...	539	520	692	1,070	1,506
11. Social Visits	530	374	412	606	662
	<hr/> 50,877 <hr/>	<hr/> 49,875 <hr/>	<hr/> 58,655 <hr/>	<hr/> 66,520 <hr/>	<hr/> 66,571 <hr/>

In addition, the Health Visitors made 583 attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres and gave 128 lectures to the mothers.

(xii) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The Health Visitors continued visitation under the provisions of Sections 206 and 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Periodical reports have been received upon cases under their supervision. At the end of 1939, 91 foster mothers and 126 children were on the register. During the year, 57 children were removed from the County, 22 were returned to the care of parents or relatives, 1 was removed to an institution, 4 were legally adopted, 2 were taken over by Government Evacuation Scheme, and in 37 cases supervision was discontinued on the child reaching the age of nine years. 912 visits were paid by the Health Visitors during the year. All reports are reviewed by the medical staff, and prompt measures are taken to investigate any case in which an adverse report is received.

(xiii) MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

The Health Visitors pay routine domiciliary visits to mental defectives who are living in good homes and whose conduct is satisfactory. Other defectives who require special supervision are visited by the Mental Welfare Officer.

(xiv) UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

Under arrangements described in previous reports, 14 unmarried mothers were admitted to Homes in 1939.

(xv) CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

17 cases were referred during 1939. The number of children concerned was 29, and 98 visits were made by the Inspector.

(xvi) PREVENTION OF DEAFNESS AND DEAF-MUTISM.

Under arrangements described in previous Reports, 15 cases have been referred to hospitals for operation.

(xvii) DENTAL TREATMENT AND DEFECTIVE VISION.

During the year, 223* expectant and nursing mothers and 354 children under five years of age who required dental treatment, and 92 children under five who required examination for defective vision, were referred to the Staff of the School Medical Department. In addition, 30 County patients attending the Kettering Ante-Natal Clinic received dental treatment. Assistance towards the cost of dentures was given to 14 mothers.

(xviii) CONSULTANT OBSTETRIC FACILITIES.

As stated earlier, under the heading of Puerperal Pyrexia, the County Council has arrangements with Mr. R. Watson, F.R.C.S. (Ed.), M.R.C.O.G., (Consultant Obstetrician), and his services are available to medical practitioners in cases of abnormality of pregnancy and in puerperal cases. Request is made through the Health Department (Telephone : Northampton 4042 and 4043), or, in emergency, direct by the medical practitioner to the Consultant (Telephone : Northampton 3103) ; in the latter case the Health Department should be notified immediately afterwards.

11 patients were seen at their homes during the year at the request of private practitioners compared with 14 in 1937 and 21 in 1938.

(xix) EMERGENCY UNIT.

No cases were officially treated under these arrangements, but in point of fact it has always been the practice of the Consultant to take with him when summoned to an urgent case all the instruments and equipment he is likely to require, including transfusion apparatus, and if necessary he has also taken his private nurse.

(xx) CONTRACEPTION CLINIC.

The clinic of the Northampton Women's Welfare Association is held in the old Infant Welfare Centre premises in Dychurch Lane, Northampton, on the third and fourth Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m., every month except August and December. Appointments may be made for the attendance of suitable cases on application to Dr. M. Hendrie, Billing Road, Northampton, enclosing the necessary medical certificate stating the condition for which the advice is required. Appliances must be paid for by the patient. 18 County cases were seen under these arrangements during 1939.

(This Clinic was discontinued on the outbreak of War, but was re-opened in April, 1940.)

(xxi) HOME HELPS.

A service of Home Helps is provided to render domestic assistance in cases where there are no friends or relatives available, and the full cost of engaging a help cannot be made. Applications are considered by the Standing Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee, who fix the proportion to be paid by the husband towards the cost of the services of the Home Help.

Eight cases received assistance under this scheme during the year.

Evacuation.

The duties imposed upon the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare arrangements as a result of the operation of the Government Evacuation Scheme in September, 1939, were for a time both onerous and pressing. By reason of the fact that air raids were not experienced in 1939 there was,

*67 of these did not attend for treatment.

as described in my School Medical Officer's Report, a steadily increasing return flow to London of mothers and children of pre-school age with the result that by the end of the year the numbers represented by these priority classes remaining in the County were almost negligible. The duties imposed on the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme can be considered under three categories :

1. Expectant mothers in the last month of pregnancy sent to the County in special parties.
2. Mothers and children under school age evacuated to billets throughout the County.
3. Residential Nursery Parties.

1. EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Shortly before the outbreak of war the Regional Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health requested the Medical Officer of Health of the County Borough of Northampton and myself to make enquiries regarding suitable accommodation for expectant mothers. St. John's Convalescent Home, Weston Favell, was chosen, and after adaptations and improvisations which had eventually to be carried out within 48 hours, it was ready to receive mothers from London. The Home was opened on Saturday, the 2nd September, 1939, 130 mothers being sent in 'buses to the Borough Infant Welfare Centre, St. Giles' Street, where they were interviewed and, if necessary, examined.

The Matron, Miss Clayton, remained in charge of the Home, while the nursing staff was recruited from the London County Council School Sisters, midwives from various London hospitals and local independent midwives and nurses. At a later stage the staff principally consisted of a Sister Tutor, midwives and pupils from the Royal Northern Hospital.

Dr. Elizabeth Coles was appointed Medical-Superintendent, and Mr. R. Watson rendered invaluable assistance in supervising the clinical work and in giving personal attention to many difficulties which had to be encountered in the early days during which the Home was working.

The Home was intended to provide 69 beds and, as can be imagined, there was considerable difficulty in procuring equipment, much of which was purchased locally, and infant cots, labour beds and anæsthetic apparatus were transferred from the London County Council.

Under the agreement made with the Trustees of St. John's Home the general administration remained under their charge while the County Council was responsible for the midwifery work and for meeting all costs which were charged to the Evacuation Account. It is a pleasure to record the help and co-operation received from the Trustees who very generously placed the Home at the disposal of the Government, rent free.

Women whose confinement was considered to be due, or who were suffering from an ante-natal condition which required institutional treatment were admitted forthwith to St. John's Home, while the remainder had to be billeted in the Borough. The billeting of the expectant mothers proved no easy task, and in point of fact for the first night or two a number of women were admitted to the hospital pending billets being found for them.

In accordance with the instructions received from the Ministry every effort was made to recover a reasonable contribution towards the cost from all patients treated at St. John's Home. One of the lady members of the Board of Trustees of the Home, who kindly acted as Almoner, rendered useful service in this connection, but there was difficulty in recovering contributions because women returned to London before details of financial circumstances could be fully ascertained, with the result that only some £183 was finally collected.

The ante-natal supervision of the evacuee mothers was for the most part carried out by the County Borough of Northampton, but in addition, a number of evacuee women attended the County clinics, details of the number of women who attended being shown in the Table on page 20.

The Home, as previously noted, was opened on the 2nd September, 1939, and was closed on the 22nd December, 1939, as there was then an insufficient number of expectant mothers in the County to justify it being kept open any longer. In addition to expectant mothers billeted in the Borough a number of women evacuated to the County were also admitted. From the beginning it was found that many of the mothers returned to London with their babies immediately after discharge. The work done in the Home is summarised in the following notes :

There were 165 deliveries, 3 still births and 2 infant deaths.

Ten cases were transferred to the Barratt Maternity Home for obstetric abnormalities.

There were 13 cases of puerperal pyrexia, two of whom were transferred to the General Hospital.

There were 11 cases of babies with watery eyes.

Obstetric complications :

- 1 breech delivery,
- 8 forceps deliveries
- 13 episiotomies,
- 42 ruptured perineae,
- 1 manual removal of placenta,
- 1 ante-partum hæmorrhage.

It should also be stated that arrangements had to be made for the continuation of the training of the midwifery pupils sent from London, but little difficulty was experienced due to the co-operation and assistance received from Mr. Watson who kindly placed all the facilities available at the Barratt Maternity Home, which is a recognised training school, at the disposal of the pupils received at St. John's.

2. MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

As regards mothers and children under school age billeted throughout the County this imposed a heavy strain on the health visiting staff who made it their endeavour to visit them at as early a date as possible. To reduce record keeping to a minimum a special record card, which had been prepared in advance, was used, but many of the records taken by the health visitors were wasted because in subsequent visits it was found in most cases that the mothers and pre-school children had returned to London.

With the authority of the Regional Officers of the Ministry of Health arrangements were made for giving free milk to necessitous evacuee mothers and children and the total expenditure under this item for the financial year ended 31st March, 1940, was £74.

3. RESIDENTIAL NURSERY PARTIES.

A few weeks after the evacuation took place it was brought to my notice by the Regional Medical Officer that four residential nursery parties had been established in the County in large Country houses, although no prior notice had been given to the County Council as Welfare Authority. The Nursery parties established were as follows : The North Hampstead and St. Pancras Day Nursery Party was evacuated to Thorpe Lubenham in September. This Party consisted of 36 children and a staff of 13 (matron, 2 trained nurses, 8 students, 2 domestic). As the accommodation at Thorpe Lubenham was not in some respects suitable the Party was later, on 20th November, transferred to Kelmarsh Hall. The Shoreditch Day Nursery Party, consisting of 33 children and a staff of 7 (matron, day nurse, night nurse, 4 voluntary helpers) plus domestic help, was established at Wakefield Lodge, the house of Lady Hillingdon. Somerstown Day Nursery School, was established at Eydon Hall, belonging to The Hon. R. Brand. This Party consisted of 30 children and 2 teachers and 6 ancillary staff.

Under arrangements made with the London Headquarters of the Women's Voluntary Services some 40 children were collected in London and sent, with a staff of 12 (matron, 3 nursery trained nurses, 3 students, 1 voluntary helper (full-time) and 3 voluntary helpers (part-time), 1 girl (full-time), to Fermyn Woods Hall, the property of Capt. G. E. Bellville.

Many problems had to be solved before the nursery parties were finally established and settled down. In particular, at Fermyn Woods Hall no arrangements had been made for the payment of the staff, and the Senior Regional Officer of the Ministry of Health arranged for the County Council to accept this responsibility, the cost being charged to the Evacuation Account. In the early months of their establishment the nursery parties were personally supervised by the County Medical Officer of Health who later deputed Dr. Newton to this work.

The children all improved in general health and fitness, although there were various difficulties that arose. In Fermyn Woods Hall there was an undue incidence of scabies and septic spots and at Thorpe Lubenham several children required hospital treatment on account chiefly of respiratory conditions. Whooping cough was unfortunately imported with the Party at Wakefield Lodge and 10 cases occurred during 1939. The other Parties remained free from infectious disease until the end of the year.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

General. The County Council's Policy, under Section 307 (1) of the Public Health Act, 1936 was continued during the year 1939, and grants were approved in respect of the following schemes :—

	<i>Estimated cost of scheme</i>
1. <i>Daventry Rural District.</i>	
Regional Scheme (Southern Area) Additional capital expenditure	£4,697
Regional Scheme (Northern Area) Extension to Claycoton	£1,050
2. <i>Kettering Rural District.</i>	
Cranford (additional capital expenditure)	£545
Grant in respect of period ended March 31st, 1939 : Combined Water Scheme and Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for parish of Corby (which became an Urban District on April 1st, 1939) (additional capital expenditure)	£26,489
3. <i>Northampton Rural District.</i>	
Ashton and Hartwell (additional capital expenditure)	£285
4. <i>Oundle and Thrapston Rural District.</i>	
Regional Scheme (additional capital expenditure)	£2,000

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

General. The County Council agreed, during the year 1939 to grant assistance under Section 307 (1) of the Public Health Act, 1936 towards the cost of the following schemes of sewage disposal :—

	<i>Estimated cost of scheme</i>
<i>Brixworth Rural District.</i>	
Hollowell	£1,415
<i>Daventry Rural District.</i>	
Braunston	£11,200

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

At the date this Report was completed 7 Annual Reports of District Medical Officers of Health had been received. From these it was ascertained that the number of privies (middens) and pail or earth closets converted to the water carriage system during the year amounted to 79.

4. FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

From the few District Medical Officers' Reports received up to the time of this Report being sent to the printer, it is learned that the administration of the Act has been satisfactory, only a few minor defects having been found, all of which were remedied.

SECTION D.

Housing.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

The progress made by Rural Housing Authorities is shown in the table on page 29. The imminence of the War naturally left Rural Councils little time to devote to housing, but in spite of this it will be seen that some Councils, notably Brackley Rural, Daventry Rural, Towcester, Oundle and Thrapston and Northampton Rural were able to provide a number of new houses.

As stated in the introduction all projects involving the approval of capital expenditure for purposes of loan sanction were stopped on the outbreak of war and consequently no further housing construction was permitted unless in special circumstances to provide houses for agricultural workers.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926-38.

The County Land Agent has kindly supplied the following information. The number of houses approved for grants under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts in the eleven years 1927-37 was 273. In 1938 the houses approved for grants numbered 151, whilst in 1939, 94 grants were approved but the certificates in respect of 22 of these were subsequently withdrawn as the work was not proceeded with in view of the outbreak of hostilities. Grants have been made in various County districts since 1st April 1935 (the date upon which the Revision of County Districts became operative) as follows :—

<i>District.</i>	1935 (9 months)	1936	1937	1938	1939	<i>Total.</i>
Brackley Rural	—	—	4	9	8	21
Brixworth Rural	1	1	18	41	7	68
Daventry Rural	—	4	12	4	5	25
Kettering Rural	—	16	6	13	5	40
Northampton Rural	—	—	41	44	31	116
Oundle and Thrapston Rural ...	11	—	11	12	7	41
Towcester Rural	2	—	10	21	7	40
Wellingborough Rural	—	8	9	5	2	24
Raunds Urban (Stanwick)	—	—	—	2	—	2

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

District.	Action taken under Section 25. CLEARANCE AREAS.		Action taken under Section 11. DEMOLITION OF INSANITARY HOUSES.		Number of houses constructed between 1st January & 31st Dec.	Number of houses in course of erection, but not com- pleted at end of year.	No. of houses for which ten- ders were accepted on or before 31st December, but which were not com- pleted or in process of erection on that date.	Number of houses for which cer- tificates of recondition- ing under Sect. 51 were issued.
	Number of houses affected. *	Number closed or demolished. †	Number of houses affected. *	Number closed or demolished. †				
Brackley Rural	—	116	—	10	118	32	—	—
Brixworth Rural †	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daventry Rural	—	—	—	—	92	—	—	—
Kettering Rural	—	6	—	3	7	—	—	—
Northampton Rural	—	77	—	11	47	16	—	11
Oundle and Thrapston Rural	—	40	—	5	64	—	12	—
Towcester Rural	67x	—	18	—	81	17	—	—
Wellingborough Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	67	239	18	29	409	65	12	11

Note.—* The figures in these columns relate only to houses scheduled by the local authority during the year 1939.
† The houses referred to in these columns may have been scheduled in 1939 or in previous years. Further, the figures do not include houses returned as demolished in 1939 but which were shown in returns for previous years as having been closed.
x Orders not confirmed on account of war.
† Returns not received.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. MILK SUPPLY.

Under part IV of the Agriculture Act, 1937, the responsibility for the veterinary inspection of dairy cattle under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders rests with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 and 1938.

With regard to the clinical examination and tuberculin testing of herds licensed for the production of designated milks, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has undertaken to carry out the routine examinations, but not pre-licence examinations and tests. These latter remain the responsibility of the applicant for the licence and are carried out by private veterinary surgeons, subject to the requirements of the Orders. Thus, certificates relating to routine veterinary examinations and tuberculin tests are issued by the Ministry's veterinary staff.

In pursuance of their powers under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, the County Council granted licences for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk in 4 cases, and Accredited milk in 40 cases, during the year 1939. In the same period, 6 Tuberculin Tested and 20 Accredited milk producers relinquished their licences or removed, so that at the end of the year there were 26 Tuberculin Tested and 333 Accredited licences in force in the County. Of these, 15 Tuberculin Tested and 19 Accredited producers were licensed to bottle milk on the farm.

Of the 26 Tuberculin Tested herds in the County 14 were, at the end of the year, entered in the Register of Attested Herds of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

During the year, 230 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were examined of which 195, or 85% were satisfactory. In the case of Accredited milk, 2443 samples were examined, and 1783, or 73%, complied with the requirements of the Orders.

Where conditions are found to be unsatisfactory, or samples examined do not comply with the requirements of the Orders, re-inspections are made and further samples are taken until conditions become satisfactory. In cases where the reason for the unsatisfactory report is not apparent, the producers are advised to seek the assistance of the Northamptonshire Institute of Agriculture, the Principal of which, W. A. Stewart, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.(Agr.), is always willing to send his technical staff to give advice and help.

As stated in my last Annual Report, the Ministry of Health deputed one of their Milk Inspectors to this County in October, 1938, to investigate the Council's administration of the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, and the report upon this inspection was received in February 1939. In consequence of this, the procedure under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, was amended to deal with the points mentioned in the letter received from the Ministry; the chief matters are dealt with in the following notes :—

(1) *General Procedure* : The applicant for a licence to produce designated milk is informed of his right of appeal to the Minister when required improvements to his premises are not in the opinion of the applicant considered justified.

(2) *Co-operation with District Councils* : Sanitary Inspectors of District Councils are informed when initial inspections of applicants' premises are to take place so that they may accompany the County Council officials, should they desire to do so.

(3) *Farm Inspection* : Periodical visits are made to farms when detailed inspections including survey of equipment and methods, herds and herd-books and sale records are made. In the case of Tuberculin Tested herds, although some District Council Sanitary Inspectors continue to collect samples as agents of the County Council—it having been ascertained that satisfactory sampling equipment has been procured—the County Council officials also make inspections of these farms.

(4) *Identification Numbers and Herd Records* : A circular was sent to all producers calling attention to the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, with regard to the numbering of the animals and keeping of records. Enquiries regarding these items are made at preliminary, routine and at special inspections.

(5) *Tuberculin Tests and Clinical Examinations* : Producers are requested to report on the disposal of reactors or animals found unfit at veterinary examinations. It is ensured, also, that animals added to Tuberculin Tested herds are segregated and re-tested after two months, unless they have been taken directly from another licenced Tuberculin Tested herd or an Attested herd. Enquiries are made either at routine visits or at surprise visits, to confirm that the requirements of the Orders are complied with.

(6) *Sealing of Churns* : Enquiries are made at routine visits and this subject was dealt with in the circular mentioned under heading (4).

(7) *Sampling Control* : Arrangements have been made whereby a larger number of samples is collected. The Assistant County Sanitary Inspector visits farms during the early morning in addition to the afternoon on most sampling days. During 1939 he made 794 visits to farms, procuring samples at the majority of these inspections. More frequent visits are paid to Depots also, where a good number of samples is obtained. In consequence of these alterations a total of 2,673 samples of designated milk were taken during the past year for examination—an increase of 103% over the number taken in 1938.

Samples are taken from churns and where it is necessary they are kept at atmospheric shade temperature overnight in a specially constructed cupboard. Special sampling apparatus has been obtained after careful consideration of type, size and cost. Bottled samples are dealt with as specifically mentioned in the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

(8) *Conditions of Production* : Before new Licences are granted, due regard is paid to lighting and ventilation of cowsheds and milk rooms. A routine inspection form covering conditions of premises etc., is completed in respect of each visit and verbal warning is given of any defects. Failure to remedy defects, results in a written warning. Where necessary producers are reminded of their responsibility with regard to cleansing and sterilising churns and the same standard of production is required from Accredited milk producers as from Tuberculin Tested milk producers.

(9) *Suspension or Revocation of Licences* : Unsatisfactory samples always result in extra sampling from the farms concerned. The Public Health Committee has appointed a Sub-Committee to deal with the suspension and revocations of licences.

It was found necessary, during the year under review, to bring before the Sub-Committee referred to above, four cases with a view to the licences to produce designated milk being suspended or revoked. All four licences were suspended.

NON-DESIGNATED MILK SUPPLIES.

1,123 samples were taken by District Council Sanitary Inspectors for examination for bacterial cleanliness by the methylene blue test at the County Laboratory ; these gave the following results :

“ Good ”—785, or 69.9%.
 “ Moderate ”—147, or 13.1%.
 “ Bad ”—191, or 17.0%

The following table gives a list of inspections carried out during the year by the Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and shows the number of cows destroyed on account of tuberculous infection :—

INSPECTION OF DAIRY COWS

(a) Clinical Inspection :

	<i>No. of Herd Inspections.</i>	<i>No. of cattle examined.</i>	<i>No. of cattle dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order.</i>
“ Tuberculin Tested ” and “ Certified ” Herds	77	6783	—
Accredited or Standard Herds	1165	30671	18
Non-designated Herds	2911	35767	28

(b) Tuberculin Testing of “ Tuberculin Tested ” and “ Certified ” Herds :

No. of cattle tested	6587
No. of Reactors found	210

(c) Tracing sources of tuberculous milk :

No. of cases outstanding from previous quarters	2
No. of fresh reports from Medical Officers of Health	8
No. of herds involved	10
No. of cases of tuberculosis of the udder found	3
No. of cases outstanding at end of quarters	3

TUBERCULOSIS (ATTESTED HERDS) SCHEMES.

No. of Attested Herds	41
No. of Supervised Herds	38

MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, was repealed by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on October 1st, 1939. Although after that date there is no statutory obligation on a county borough or county medical officer of health to take action on receiving a notice from a district medical officer of health, the Minister of Health in Circular 1755, dated 15th December, 1938, states that he “ has no doubt that local authorities will appreciate the advantage of continuing, as an administrative arrangement, the existing co-operation between the Medical Officers of Health and the Divisional Inspector. A district medical officer of health who has reason to suspect that tuberculosis is caused or is likely to be caused by the consumption of any milk sold or exposed for sale within his area, should communicate with the Medical Officer of the county or county borough in which the cows are kept, and the latter should then immediately take the action set out in paragraph 11 of Circular 1685 ” as follows : he “ should communicate the information received by him to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Divisional Inspector will arrange for the veterinary inspection of the cattle concerned and proceed as if he had received notice of suspected disease under the Tuberculosis Order, informing the Medical Officer of Health from whom the information was received by him of the result of the enquiry in due course.”

Eight cases came under consideration during the year in respect of samples of milk found to be tubercle-infected taken outside the Administrative County from supplies from County producers.

The Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture made prompt veterinary inspections of the farms in each case and took samples of milk for examination.

The following are brief particulars of the cases :—

- (1) Sample taken in Leicester City from a supply from Welford. 26 cows examined and four group samples and one individual sample taken. All samples negative. Cow sent to knackers between the taking of the sample by the Leicester Inspector and the inspection by the Divisional Inspector believed to be the cause of the complaint.
- (2) Sample taken in County of London from a supply from Gt. Doddington. 10 cows examined, and one bulk sample and one individual sample taken. The latter was found to be tubercle-infected and the cow was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. The group sample was negative.
- (3) (4) (5) (6) Samples taken in County Borough of Northampton from supplies from Great Houghton, Kislingbury, Holcot and Hannington. 114 cows examined and 17 group samples and five individual samples taken. The samples from the Kislingbury and Holcot farms were negative, but two of the individual samples from the Great Houghton and Hannington farms gave positive results and the two cows involved were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.
- (7) Sample taken in County Borough of Northampton from a supply from Great Houghton. 36 cows examined and six group samples taken. One of these group samples proved positive but individual samples taken later gave negative results.
- (8) Sample taken in County Borough of Northampton from a supply from Grendon. 19 cows examined and four group samples taken, all of which were negative. The owners of this herd are cattle dealers and thus the cattle of the herd are changed very frequently.

2. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925-27.

Of the 573 samples submitted for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 498 were examined for the presence of a preservative.

As has been the case for many years, no sample of milk or cream contained preservative or colouring matter, and no prohibited preservative was found in any of the other food stuffs analysed.

Permitted preservative was, with one exception, well within the prescribed amounts, the exception being a sample of natural orange squash which contained a small excess of 31 parts per million of sulphur dioxide over the permitted maximum of 350 parts per million. It was not deemed warranted that any action should be taken in respect thereof.

3. ADULTERATION, etc.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Since the last Annual Report a new Food and Drugs Act has come into force and is known as the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This Act consolidates the provisions of twenty-nine previous Acts dealing with public health in relation to food and drugs. The new Act is more comprehensive than its predecessor and

contains several alterations and additions. One of the main alterations is a requirement that labels supplied with a mixed article must be of adequate size and have any notice of addition or abstraction distinctly and legibly printed or written and be conspicuously visible. Further, the offence of giving a label which falsely describes the article is extended to cover advertisements. These will be considered as part of the label and any statement made which is calculated to mislead a purchaser is now punishable.

Penalties for a second offence under the new Act have been increased to £100 or 3 months imprisonment, or both.

During the year, 573 samples were taken by the Inspectors of Weights and Measures for analysis by the Public Analyst, Mr. E. Voelcker. 490 were taken formally, of which 62 were below standard or adulterated, and 44 were informal samples. The remaining 39 were "appeal-to-cow" samples taken in connection with unsatisfactory milk.

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples, 10.8, is lower than that of the preceding year when it had risen to 12.9 per cent

The list of samples taken is as follows :—

Milk.....	453	Coffee and Chicory	2
Milk, separated	5	Cocoa	2
Milk, skimmed	4	Beef Dripping	1
Milk, sterilised	1	Pork Dripping	1
Cream	2	Minced Beef	1
Butter	14	Veal and Ham Galantine.....	1
Margarine	4	Meat	3
Condensed Milk		Potted Meat	1
(Machine Skimmed)	1	Beef Sausage	1
Cheese	5	Pork Sausage	4
Cheddar Cheese	2	Breakfast Sausage	1
Lard	4	Saveloy	1
Custard Powder	1	Pork Pie	1
Cream Custard	1	Fish Paste	2
Sugar Crystals	1	Rice.....	2
Granulated Sugar	2	Chocolate Roll	2
Demerara Sugar	3	Christmas Pudding	1
Oatmeal	2	Salad Oil	1
Sago	1	Pickles	1
Ground Almonds	1	Tomato Sauce	1
Ground Ginger	1	Tinned Peas	1
Malt Vinegar	1	Natural Orange Squash	1
Pepper	1	Beer	1
Currants	2	Menthol and Eucalyptus	
Sultanas	1	Sweets.....	1
Stoned Dates	1	Bicarbonate of Soda	1
Honey	1	Aspirin Tablets	1
Strawberry Jam	1	Medicinal Paraffin	1
Bramble Jelly	1	Tincture of Iodine	2
Blackcurrant Jam.....	1	Parrish's Chemical Food	1
Marmalade	1	Halibut Liver Oil	1
Mincemeat	1	Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	1
Dried Apricots	1	Olive Oil	1
Grapefruit	1	Camphorated Oil	1
Golden Plums	1		
Table Jelly Crystals	1		
Tea	2		
Coffee	3		

Milk is the food most likely to be adulterated or to be below standard and, as in former years, was sampled far more frequently than any other article.

Of the 453 samples of milk (which included 39 "appeal-to-cow" samples) taken during the year, 57 were adulterated or were below standard. Excluding the "appeal" samples, the percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 13.8. Of this number, 10 were slightly low in either fat or solids-not-fat and as no evidence was found of adulteration, the samples, whilst being below the presumptive standard, could be regarded as genuine.

Six samples contained added water and the action taken in connection therewith was as under :—

32.2 per cent. Added Water	The vendor was a producer-retailer. Fined £4/9/6 and 10/6 costs. The cowman employed by the above vendor was proceeded against for adding the water to the milk. A plea of "guilty" was entered and a fine of £2/0/0 was imposed.
17 per cent Added Water to Skimmed Milk.	The vendor was a producer-retailer who denied having milk for sale. The sample was thereupon purchased as skimmed milk but on analysis was found to be watered milk. Fined £5/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
12 per cent. Added Water.	The vendor was a producer-retailer. Fined 10/0 and 10/6 costs.

The remaining three samples contained water in slight amounts, 2.5, 3.0, and 2.5 per cent. respectively, and as investigations tended to show that there was no attempt in any of the cases to adulterate the milk, the vendors were warned to exercise more care in the use of water for swilling purposes.

In connection with the 41 samples deficient in fat, 8 "appeal-to-cow" samples contained fat below the required 3 per cent., thus confirming natural fat deficiencies. In a number of other "appeals" the fat content was just up to or slightly above the standard and due regard was had to the fact that the "appeal" was taken some day or two after the original sample and that the milking on the date of taking the "appeal" was carried out under supervision.

Proceedings were, however, instituted in respect of fat deficiencies where there was sufficient evidence to show that there had been failure to stir the milk before selling, with the following results :—

50.3 per cent. deficient in fat.	The sample was obtained from a cafe. Fined £1/0/0 and 14/6 costs.
33.0 per cent. deficient in fat.	Dismissed on payment of 14/6 costs.
29.0 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined £1/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
21.3 per cent. deficient in fat.	Samples from same vendor on different dates. Both cases dismissed.
16.6 per cent. deficient in fat.	
20.0 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined 10/0 and 10/6 costs.
17.0 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined 10/0 and 10/6 costs.
14.6 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined £1/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
11.6 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined £1/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
11.3 per cent. deficient in fat.	Fined £1/0/0 and 10/6 costs.

The average fat content of all the milk samples (excluding those containing added water)

taken during the year was 3.66 per cent., as compared with 3.45 per cent. for the preceding year, and varied with the different seasons of the year as follows :—

First Quarter.....	3.89 per cent.
Second Quarter	3.44 per cent.
Third Quarter	3.41 per cent.
Fourth Quarter	3.99 per cent.

With the increasing attention being paid to the value of milk as the most important item in the diet of growing children and expectant and nursing mothers—milk is the “growth” food par excellence—it cannot be regarded as at all satisfactory that every year approximately 10 per cent. are reported to be adulterated or below standard. The adulteration of milk is easily performed but difficult to detect; it has been well described as one of the meanest forms of theft. The public as consumers has the right to expect a high standard of integrity among those who handle milk and in cases where fraudulent adulteration is proved the obvious penalty and the only safeguard to the public, in addition to fines or imprisonment, is to prevent the offender from being again entrusted to handle milk supplies.

MILK IN SCHOOLS.

The scheme, which was started during the latter part of 1938, of taking informal samples of milk supplied to schools within the County was continued and a total of 113 samples were taken and tested by the Inspectors.

108 samples were found to be genuine and in five instances formal samples under the Food and Drugs Act were immediately procured. In one case of suspected added water, the formal sample was found to be genuine, and in the other four cases, where informal samples showed fat deficiencies, two formal samples were just up to the required standard and two were deficient in fat. In the two latter cases, “appeal-to-cow” samples were taken, one being just up to standard and the other being deficient in fat. The producers were advised accordingly and later samples showed improved figures for the fat content.

At the same time there were collected by the Food and Drugs Inspectors, 42 samples of raw milk of which 24 passed the Methylene Blue Test and 4 of pasteurised milk of which all passed the Plate Count Test.

SAMPLES OTHER THAN MILK.

Of the variety of foodstuffs other than milk which were taken little has to be reported as the samples were genuine and were free from arsenical contamination.

The percentage of total samples reported against and the results of the action taken is shown in the following table.

Year.	Samples submitted for analysis.	Samples reported against. Number.	Percentage.	Amount of fines and costs in prosecutions.
1935	531	57	10.7	£16 18 6
1936	596	61	10.2	£3 11 6
1937	551	68	12.3	£52 13 6
1938	579	75	12.9	£13 13 6
1939	573	62	10.8	£24 3 0

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923-1927.

The one sample taken for analysis contained the guaranteed equivalent of skimmed milk and a large number of tins examined bore labels which complied with the Regulations in every respect.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923-1927.

No action was taken.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

No action was taken.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

1. ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Western Northamptonshire Joint Hospital Order was made by the Minister of Health on the 7th February, 1938, the Kettering Joint Hospital Order on the 7th July, 1938, and the Eastern Northamptonshire Joint Hospital Order on the 27th September, 1939.

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VACCINATION.

Smallpox. No case was notified.

Vaccination. The statistics of vaccination for 1938 (the latest year available) show a fractional increase in the number of successful vaccinations in the Administrative County, the percentage of successful vaccinations to registered births being 9.5 as compared with 9.4 for the year 1937. The highest percentages of vaccinations were in the Guardians Areas of Brixworth (16.4) and Towcester (15.7) and the lowest in the Guardians Areas of Wellingborough (4.7) and Oundle (7.6).

Scarlet Fever. 200 cases were notified, showing a decrease of 16 as compared with the year 1938. With the exception of five separate weeks, cases occurred each week, 70% being notified in the last half of the year. The highest numbers occurred in the following Districts :—Northampton Rural 30, Brixworth Rural 29, Wellingborough Urban 24 and Kettering Borough 22, and the only Districts entirely free of the disease were Irthlingborough, Raunds and Rothwell Urban. Only one death occurred as against no death in the year 1938.

Diphtheria. Seventy-three cases were notified as against 80 in the year 1938, 72% occurring in the second half of the year. These were distributed over 16 Districts, the highest numbers occurred in the following Districts :—Oundle and Thrapston Rural 13, Rushden Urban 10, Wellingborough Urban 9, Kettering Borough 8, and Northampton Rural 7. There were two deaths as against ten deaths in the year 1938.

Enteric Fever. Only eight cases were notified as against four cases in the year 1938. As in the previous year, there was no death.

Erysipelas. 70 cases were notified as against 58 in the year 1938.

Measles. No prevalence of measles was reported and there was no death, against two deaths in the year 1938.

Whooping Cough. 62 cases were reported, all in the last two months of the year. Two deaths occurred as against four deaths in the year 1938.

Chicken-pox. Only four cases were reported.

Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age). Ten deaths occurred as against six in the year 1938.

Puerperal Pyrexia : Ophthalmia Neonatorum. These diseases are dealt with under "Maternity and Child Welfare" in Section B. of this Report.

Influenza. 55 deaths occurred, as against 33 in the year 1938.

Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal). 167 cases were notified as against 159 in the year 1938. Except for eight weeks, cases occurred in each week of the year, 64% being notified in the first half of the year.

The deaths from *all forms* of Pneumonia amounted to 99 as against 105 in the year 1938.

Acute Poliomyelitis. No case was notified and there was no death against two notified cases and one death in the year 1938.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. Three cases were notified and there were two deaths as against four cases and three deaths in the year 1938.

Encephalitis Lethargica. No cases were notified but there were two deaths as against no notified case and three deaths in the year 1938.

Acute Polio-Encephalitis. There has been no case or death during the last four years.

Malaria (contracted abroad). One case was notified.

Dysentery. No case was notified.

School Closures. No schools were closed on account of infectious disease.

Home Nursing of Infectious Cases. In addition to cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum, the following cases were nursed in their homes :—Influenza 336, Pneumonia 113, Infantile Diarrhoea 37, Whooping Cough 27, Chicken-pox 15, Measles 8, Scarlet Fever (contacts) 2, Enteric Fever 1. Nursing care was also given to several other cases not provided for in the arrangements with the Northamptonshire Nursing Association.

3. CANCER.

The facilities for treatment in the County were fully described in the Annual Report for the year 1936.

The total deaths in the Administrative County from Cancer during the year 1939 amounted to 404 (217 males and 187 females) as compared with 368 in the year 1938. The Urban Districts had 218 deaths and the Rural Districts 186 deaths.

The death-rate for the County during 1939 was 1.76 per 1,000 of the population as against 1.66 for the year 1938, and as against 1.67 for England and Wales for the year 1939.

4. TUBERCULOSIS.

The following figures compiled from the Returns of the District Medical Officers of Health, show the position of the County as regards existing cases of Tuberculosis at the end of the year 1939.

<i>Pulmonary.</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>			<i>Total, Cases.</i>
<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
538	465	1,003	188	184	372	1,375

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1939 are shown below :—

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1	—	1	4	3	—	—	—	—
5	3	3	8	9	—	—	5	2
15	11	22	10	7	6	10	2	—
25	39	38	5	5	11	11	2	2
35	18	6	1	3	15	14	1	—
45	15	2	—	1	10	5	—	—
55	7	1	1	—	8	2	—	—
65 and upwards ...	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
TOTALS ...	95	75	29	28	52	44	11	5

Thirty-eight new cases were not notified in this Administrative County, and there were two posthumous notifications ; the new cases were transfers from other areas. In addition, one fatal case was not notified, the medical practitioner being in error in believing it to have been previously notified.

The total primary notifications of Tuberculosis during the year 1939 amounted to 186—107 in the Urban Districts and 79 in the Rural Districts. Of this number, 139 were suffering from respiratory forms of the disease and 47 from other forms of Tuberculosis. There were 10 fewer primary notifications during 1939 than for the year 1938. Table III in the Statistical Section shows the number of cases notified in each District.

There was no evidence of excessive incidence of tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the County. Persons engaged in the Boot and Shoe Industry, however, accounted for 20 per cent. of the notifications, which is not an excessive proportion since the industry is the principal one in the County.

MORTALITY. Respiratory—During the year 1939, 96 deaths (52 males and 44 females) occurred, 55 of which were in the Urban Districts and 41 in the Rural Districts.

Other Forms—Sixteen deaths occurred from other forms of the disease (11 males and 5 females)—11 in the Urban Districts and 5 in the Rural Districts.

There were thus 112 deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis as compared with 128 deaths in 1938. *The mortality rate was 0.49 per 1,000 of the population as against 0.57 in the previous year.* The rate for the Combined Urban Districts was 0.55 and for the Combined Rural Districts 0.41.

The Death Rates per 1,000 persons from all forms of Tuberculosis during the last 10 years have been as follows :—

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Administrative County	0.83	0.71	0.64	0.63	0.68	0.67	0.53	0.55	0.57	0.49
England and Wales	0.87	0.86	0.81	0.79	0.74	0.68	0.65	0.65	0.60	0.64

Dispensary Work. The situation, days and hours of opening of the three County Tuberculosis Dispensaries are as follows :—

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| (1) Northampton. | New County Offices, Guildhall Road, Northampton.
Saturdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 Noon. |
| (2) Kettering. | Market Street, Kettering.
Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12. 30 p.m. |
| (3) Wellingborough. | Rock Street, Wellingborough.
Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12. 30 p.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. |
| Ditto. | Ultra Violet Light Clinic, Rock Street, Wellingborough.
Mondays, 9. 30 a.m. to 2 p.m. |

The number of patients who visited the Dispensaries was 1,463, and they made a total of 3,805 attendances, or an average of 2.60 visits per patient. The latter number includes 1,915 attendances made by 90 patients who came for treatment by Ultra Violet Radiation at Wellingborough Dispensary. 720 new patients, exclusive of contacts, were examined in connection with the dispensaries for the first time in 1939. Of these, 174 were diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis before the end of the year, 12 were considered to be doubtfully tuberculous, and remained under observation, and 534 were considered to be non-tuberculous.

168 contacts were examined in addition to the 720 new patients. Of these, 1 was regarded as suffering from tuberculosis, 1 was considered to be doubtfully tuberculous, and 166 were considered to be non-tuberculous.

The number of visits made by the Tuberculosis Officer to patients in their own homes was 618 (inclusive of 132 personal consultations with medical practitioners). The total number of consultations, personal and otherwise, between Tuberculosis Officer and medical practitioner was 864. Of the 175 new patients (inclusive of the one contact found to be tuberculous) who were diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis, 77 per cent. were notified after they had been examined by the Tuberculosis Officer, and only 23 per cent. previous to examination by the Tuberculosis Officer. All these patients, with the exception of the one who was examined as a contact, were seen by the Tuberculosis Officer at the request of their own medical attendant.

The total number of visits paid by the Health Visitors to the homes of tuberculous patients was 3,260.

Of the 888 persons, including contacts, who were examined for the first time in 1939, 134 were found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 41 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The former were placed in the following categories :—

Sputum negative for Tubercle Bacilli	73 or 54.48 per cent
„ positive „ „ „ Group 1	2 or 1. 49 „
„ „ „ „ „ „ 2	53 or 39. 55 „
„ „ „ „ „ „ 3	6 or 4.48 „

The 41 non-pulmonary cases were classified as follows :—

Bones and Joints	20 or 48.78 per cent.
Abdominal	1 or 2.44 per cent.
Other Organs	2 or 4.88 „
Peripheral Glands	18 or 43.90 „

In 1939, 134 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were diagnosed as compared with 143 cases in 1938. 41 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were diagnosed in 1939 as compared with 37 such cases in 1938.

During the year, 43 pulmonary and 20 non-pulmonary cases were transferred from the arrested to the cured class and written off the Register as "Recovered."

Evacuation. Prior to the Government Evacuation scheme being put into operation in September, 1939, the need for avoiding the billeting of children in tuberculous households was foreseen, and in November and December, 1939, a circular letter was sent to the District Medical Officers of Health on this subject, together with lists of patients in whose households it was considered it would be inadvisable for children to be billeted. The attention of the Health Visitors has been specially drawn to this matter, and steps have been taken to ensure that the information sent to District Medical Officers of Health is kept up to date.

The evacuees did result in some increase of the work of the dispensaries but it has not been possible to present separate statistics. For the most part, the cases referred to the dispensaries are children suffering from glands of the neck and very few cases of phthisis were encountered.

X-rays. X-ray work continued during the year at the Kettering, Wellingborough and Northampton Health Clinics.

1,578 examinations were made by X-ray screen and film, which was 119 more than the previous year. These facilities added greatly to the accuracy and speed of diagnosis.

The arrangements for the X-ray of county patients at the Northampton County Borough Health Clinic continued to work reasonably well, apart from the fact that it was found that the use of an outside Clinic became a time-consuming process. In this connection, 101 X-ray examinations of county patients were made at the Northampton County Borough Health Clinic.

Pathological Specimens. The following pathological specimens were examined by the Tuberculosis Officer :—

Sputum : negative	323
positive	60
Albumen	5
Pus from glands	1
	<hr/>
	389
	<hr/>

Shelters. The number of open-air shelters occupied by tuberculous patients was 19.

Treatment. In addition to routine Sanatorium and Domiciliary treatment, Tuberculin, in the form of Koch's Tubercle Bacilli Emulsion, was supplied to two patients with renal tuberculosis. As regards special treatment, 137 pneumothorax refills were given at the dispensaries, and an account of Ultra Violet Radiation by Alpine Sun Lamp and Kromayer Lamp follows.

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS BY ARTIFICIAL LIGHT.

The conditions for which treatment was given are classified as follows :—

Lupus	5
Cervical adenitis	22
Tuberculous osteitis	3
Delicate	45
Psoriasis	1
Bronchitis and pulmonary fibrosis (non-tuberculous)	9
Acne	1
Eczema	4
	<hr/>
	90
	<hr/>

Patients had treatment by general Ultra Violet Radiation, and in some cases by local irradiation in addition. The number of general treatments was 1,890, and the number of local treatments by Kromayer lamp was 709, giving a total of 2,599.

The results of treatment confirmed clinical experience of previous years, namely, that Ultra Violet light is a most efficient measure of dealing with tuberculous glands and sinuses, and that for lupus cases, local and general Ultra Violet Radiation, together with gold, can prove of marked value.

SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The number of Northamptonshire County Council patients treated at Rushden House Sanatorium was 204.

No. of patients in Rushden House Sanatorium on 1st January, 1939	67
„ „ „ admitted during the year	137
„ „ „ discharged during the year	119
„ „ „ who died in the Sanatorium	15
„ „ „ in the Sanatorium on 31st December, 1939	70

One patient was admitted to Cambridge Tuberculosis Colony, Papworth, making a total of 5 patients under treatment at the end of the year. One patient remained under treatment at the British Legion Village, Preston Hall, during the year. Two children admitted to the Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common during 1938, were discharged during the year 1939. One boy was admitted to Burrow Hill Sanatorium Colony in June 1939, and liability for his maintenance passed into the hands of the County Borough of Northampton in September 1939 on the removal of his parents to that district.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The total number of non-pulmonary patients who received institutional treatment during 1939 was 43. The institutions where treatment was afforded were as follows :

Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton	40 patients
Creton Sanatorium, Northampton	3 „
No. of patients in institutions on January 1st, 1939	22
„ „ „ admitted during the year	21
„ „ „ discharged during the year	16
„ „ „ who died in institutions	1
„ „ „ in institutions on December 31st, 1939	26

Combined Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Three cases received treatment at Creton Sanatorium.

Thoracic Surgical Cases.

Four cases were treated at Creton Sanatorium. An extra pleural pneumothorax was performed on a male patient; a patient who had been in Creton during the previous year for treatment of tuberculous empyema died during 1939. A child was admitted for adhesion section but this was not done. The fourth patient who had been a Nurse at Creton, received treatment including pneumothorax, the County Health Committee making a partial grant towards her maintenance.

AFTER CARE.

The After Care services in the County continued their work of assisting tuberculous patients and families by means of practical help and advice and by grants of milk, butter, eggs and

Christmas parcels. After Care assistance and relief is supplied from three sources, the Voluntary Care Committees, the Public Assistance Committee and the Public Health Committee, and the Tuberculosis Officer co-ordinates these services to avoid overlapping.

Voluntary Care Committees.

Since last year there has been no change in the number of Voluntary Care Committees. Committees are in existence in the following districts—Higham Ferrers Borough, Kettering Borough, Desborough Urban District, Irthlingborough Urban District, Raunds Urban District, Rothwell Urban District, Rushden Urban District, Wellingborough Urban District. Routine work has proceeded successfully and many valuable and permanent results have been achieved by the Committees. The Secretaries have been constantly in touch with this Department in regard to the requirements and problems of particular patients. Satisfactory results have especially been achieved in Rushden, Kettering and Wellingborough. In particular, the co-operation of Mr. A. H. J. Crick and his Committee in Kettering, of Miss A. M. Sharwood and her Committee in Rushden, and of Mr. F. E. Gadd and his Committee in Wellingborough, has been appreciated.

Care Work by Public Assistance Committee.

The After Care work is entirely the responsibility of the Public Assistance Committee. The Tuberculosis Officer has, from time to time, been able to have the grant increased by describing to the Public Assistance Officer, the medical nature of the cases and the condition and health of contacts. The Public Assistance Officer and the Tuberculosis Officer are frequently in consultation about individual patients.

Public Health Committee Care Work.

Relief to tuberculous patients and families has again considerably increased and during the financial year ending March 31st, 1940, £735 was spent for the purpose of relief and of all After Care problems amongst patients. The responsibility for the administration of this amount lies with the Standing Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee. Several families received substantial grants and were in this way prevented from the necessity of applying for Public Assistance. Such action adheres to the principle that relief must be given to tuberculosis households before destitution sets in and be continued long after the medical crisis has passed, if rehabilitation is to be effective and permanent.

Extra Nourishment in the form of milk, butter and eggs was granted to 90 patients as against 88 in the previous year.

During the year, 11 patients received sums varying from 5s. to 30s. weekly in the form of foodstuffs. 3 of these patients received this form of assistance throughout the whole of the year, and the others for periods of three weeks upwards.

RUSHDEN HOUSE SANATORIUM.

It is with deep regret that I have to record the sudden death on March 15th, 1940, of Dr. J. H. Crane, M.B.E., who had been Medical Superintendent of Rushden House Sanatorium for 19 years. Dr. Crane made Rushden House his life's work to which he was unfailingly devoted. He has left behind him not only a concept and tradition, namely the sympathetic treatment of tuberculosis by modern methods at Rushden, but also a well designed group of buildings which we hope will survive the present holocaust as a memorial to his endeavours. Many greater men would have been content to have left less ; it has been given to few men to bequeath as much to the public service.

As regards Dr. Crane's personal qualities, all who had the privilege of knowing him will for long retain memories of his ready Irish wit and the kindly individual interest he took in each of his patients.

The report which follows has been compiled by Dr. Lord, who succeeded to the appointment of Medical Superintendent.

During the year, 71 beds have been available for the treatment of patients with pulmonary tuberculosis (37 for males, 34 for females). 5 patients were admitted for observation; of these, one male patient after 38 days was diagnosed as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 other males were ultimately discharged as suffering from bronchiectasis. One female was discharged as suffering from bronchiectasis.

There were 137 admissions of patients (69 male, and 68 female) and 119 discharged (65 male and 54 female). 15 patients died in the Sanatorium, (5 male and 10 female). A large percentage were of serious type with extensive disease needing prolonged treatment in bed. No beds were occupied by London County Council patients.

Treatment consisted of absolute rest substituted for suitable patients by graduated work. This routine of treatment was supplemented in suitable cases by ancillary measures.

- (1) *Gold Treatment.* 20 patients had injections of gold (12 males and 8 females).
- (2) *Cadmium.* 37 patients had injections of cadmium sulphide in sterilised Olive Oil.
- (3) *Pneumothorax Treatment.* 6 inductions of artificial Pneumothorax were accomplished during the year, and 75 refills were given to In-patients, 2 refills were given to Out-patients to assist the Tuberculosis Officer in his absence.

Dental Department.

The work performed by the Senior County Dental Surgeon, Mr. Campion, was as follows :

Number of visits	12
Routine inspection of patients	103
Extractions	199
Fillings	4
Patients actually treated	66

All extractions were performed under local or regional anaesthesia.

Evacuation of the Sanatorium on Friday, September 1st, 1939.

Instructions were received to evacuate the Sanatorium of all possible patients in view of the gravity of the international situation. This evacuation was accomplished on the same day, and was possible on account of the efficiency of the Rushden Rotary Club Members who rendered invaluable assistance with their cars. 18 patients were left in the Sanatorium after this evacuation. The beddage was increased ready for use as an Emergency Hospital up to 102. At the beginning of October instructions were received from the County Health Department that the Sanatorium could be refilled with Tuberculosis patients on a peacetime basis. Patients were consequently readmitted with the co-operation of the Tuberculosis Officer, each re-admission being carefully considered as regards the desirability of further treatment and the home conditions.

Re-Building Scheme.

In March, 1939, the treatment block was opened. This block has previously been described and consists of X-ray room, small theatre and dressing rooms. X-rays were installed at the same time. The new men's block of 14 Hospital beds was completed and opened in August. The new Hospital section of the Sanatorium with its corridors continuing into the treatment block was finally established by the opening of this 14 bed block. Work on the final 20 bed block for convalescent patients was begun towards the end of the year.

X-ray Work.

The provision of X-rays greatly increased the efficiency both of the medical supervision of patients and of control of treatment by gold injections and artificial pneumothorax. During the year, 194 X-ray films were taken. A film is made of every patient on admission and at intervals of three months in order to estimate progress. In addition, 48 screen examinations were carried out. All new members of staff, nursing and domestic were filmed when they commenced duties.

5. VENEREAL DISEASES.

TREATMENT. The arrangements made with the Northampton General Hospital for the diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from Venereal Diseases were continued during the year, the parties to the arrangements being as hitherto, *viz.*, the County Councils of Northampton and Buckingham and the Northampton County Borough Council.

The days and hours of openings of the Out-Patient Clinic at the Northampton General Hospital are :—

Sundays (fortnightly) at 11.30 a.m., for Males.

Mondays at 12 noon for Females.

Wednesdays at 2 p.m., for Males.

Fridays at 12 noon for Females, and 7 p.m., for Males.

During the year 1939, 146 new County patients attended the out-patient clinic for treatment as compared with 174 in the year 1938. The total attendances of all County patients amounted to 2,243 as against 3,380, and the number of patients discharged after completing treatment was 98 as against 128. The number who ceased to attend without completing treatment, or before the final test as to cure, was 21 as against 28.

The number of persons treated with salvarsan substitutes was 110 as against 137 for the year 1938.

The number of County in-patients treated at the Northampton General Hospital was 4 (males 3, females 1), as against 12 in the previous year.

It was found necessary to repay the travelling expenses of ten persons from the County, who attended the Clinics.

The following Table supplies information about new County cases and attendances, etc., during the three years, 1937-1939 :

	1937		1938		1939	
	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES
1. Number dealt with at or in connection with the Out-patient Clinic for the first time	125	72	102	72	91	55
2. Total attendances of all persons at the Out-patient Clinic	2150	1118	2173	1207	1759	484
3. Number discharged after completion of treatment	66	41	75	53	62	36
4. Number who ceased to attend without completing treatment	43	4	23	5	19	2
5. Number of persons treated with salvarsan substitutes	87	53	91	46	73	37

With respect to those who ceased to attend before the completion of treatment the following information is given :

	<i>Syphilis.</i>		<i>Gonorrhoea.</i>	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Number of patients on books 1/1/39	55	31	33	3
New cases during 1939	17	11	40	8
	<hr/> 72	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 73	<hr/> 11
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Number of cases defaulting	7	1	12	1
Percentage of defaulters for 1939	9.7	2.3	16.4	9.0

Every effort is made by the staff of the Venereal Diseases Clinic to secure the re-attendance of patients who have ceased to attend before completing treatment.

CONGENITAL SYPHILIS. The number of cases dealt with for the first time was six—3 male and 3 female.

Regarding the statistics for new cases and attendances the Medical Officer in charge of the Clinic has reported :

“ The fall in the number of new cases in 1939 is due to incidence of the disease or that patients did not seek treatment. The fall in the number of attendances is easily accounted for by the fact that patients are now treated by Sulphapyridine and do not come up for daily local treatment. They only now come for observation every third day during the fortnight during which they are taking Sulphapyridine. Subsequently they attend every month for tests. Should there be a relapse or the patient remain uncured by the Sulphapyridine then local treatment is probably given daily. In the past, all cases were given daily local treatment for at least three months after the first negative report for Gonorrhoeal infection.

The Gonorrhoeal infected *men* of course as a rule did their irrigation at home owing to travelling difficulties, hence the reduction is particularly marked in the case of female patients.”

The fall in new cases might be explained to some extent at least by the fact that practitioners may be treating cases with Sulphapyridine instead of referring them to the clinic.

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

By the end of the year, 1,182 pathological examinations had been made at the Laboratory of the Hospital, as against 1,215 in the year 1938.

NATURE OF TEST.	NUMBER OF TESTS IN RESPECT OF PATIENTS UNDER CARE OF :		
	TREATMENT CENTRES	HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS	PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS
MICROSCOPICAL—			
For detection of spirochetes	4	—	—
For detection of gonococci	374	62	37
SERUM TESTS—			
For Wassermann reaction	210	270	113
For gonococcal infection	33	6	9
CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID TESTS—			
Wassermann reaction	—	13	—
Cell count	—	2	—
Globulin	—	3	—
Colloidal	—	3	—
Others : Chlorides	—	3	—
Sugar	—	2	—
CULTURES—			
For Gonococci	38	—	—
	659	364	159

There were 11 Medical Practitioners in the County, inclusive of the two Medical Officers of the Treatment Centre, scheduled as being qualified to receive free supplies of salvarsan substitutes during the year, and supplies were sent, on request, to one of these in respect of two cases.

In addition to the in-patients at the Northampton General Hospital previously mentioned, one unmarried girl received treatment in St. Mary's Home, Leicester, as a County Council patient. She was admitted for treatment of pregnancy and venereal disease.

SECTION G.

Health Propaganda and Educational Work.

SOCIAL HYGIENE.

The social hygiene campaign took place in Wellingborough, during the months of January and February.

Eight meetings were held as follows :

An open meeting held in a Picture House for persons over 16 years of age. A Parents' Conference addressed by Dr. Drummond Shiels on the subject, " How to tell."

Three meetings for young women and girls over 16. Miss Swaisland spoke on the " Place of Sex in Life," and the numbers attending were 26, 50 and 48. Films were shown and relative literature in the form of pamphlets and leaflets given away or sold. It was learned later that much of this literature was circulated among young people working in factories.

Three meetings for young men and boys over 16. Capt. Cuninghame was the lecturer and helpful films were shown. The attendances were 24, 34 and 34. The lecturer after each meeting discussed personal problems with individual members of the audience.

A fair amount of literature was sold, and every person attending received a booklet free. The Headmasters of the Grammar School and Technical Institute acted as Chairman at two of the meetings for young men and boys. Snow and frost had an effect on the attendance at the earlier meetings, but the numbers increased with the advent of better weather. Shyness was also responsible for many of the girls and young women not attending.

A sum of £5 10s. 10d. was expended during the year on the cost of plaques for affixing in public conveniences, calling attention to the local facilities provided by the County Council for the treatment of venereal diseases. These plaques were distributed among the following areas : Kettering Borough, Higham Ferrers Borough, and the Urban Districts of Corby, Irthlingborough, Rushden and Wellingborough.

GENERAL HEALTH EDUCATION.

The policy of providing lectures on health subjects was continued during the first seven months of the year after which it was interrupted by the war. The number of lectures given was 22 and the subjects included Maternity Services, Dental Hygiene, Tuberculosis, Nutrition, Parentcraft and Cancer.

Useful educational work is also carried out by Medical Officers and Health Visitors at Schools and Welfare Centres.

SECTION H.

Civil Defence.

In 1939, duties in connection with the organisation to deal with casualties from air raids occupied an increasing proportion of the time of the Department, and on many occasions the entire energies of the staff were concentrated on this work.

Training of lay personnel recruited for duties at first aid posts, with mobile first aid parties and with the ambulance services, continued to be carried out by the District Councils, in accordance with a memo. prepared by the County Medical Officer of Health and approved by the Air Raid Precautions Committee in December 1938.

First Aid Posts. At the outbreak of war the remaining alterations and adaptations required to complete the conversion of premises selected as fixed posts were carried out.

Five horse boxes were purchased as units for the mobile first aid posts.

Ambulances. A County Ambulance Officer, Major T. H. Curtis, was appointed in May, 1939, and undertook the organisation of the ambulance services. This proved no easy task, on account of the difficulty of earmarking suitable vehicles as part-time ambulances. At the beginning of the War a number of horse boxes were bought and some were loaned, a number of the latter being later purchased. Major Curtis, who undertook his duties on a voluntary basis, undoubtedly rendered excellent services in the organisation of his department.

First Aid Party Depots. Various premises were selected and equipped as depots, at which personnel of the parties could assemble and store their equipment. A summary of the County Casualty Services revised to December 1940 is appended.

Emergency Hospital Services. A few days before War was declared, the Ministry of Health instructed that hospitals in the Emergency Hospital Scheme should be cleared. As the expected air raids were not then experienced, orders were later received that tuberculosis institutions and cottage hospitals should re-admit to their former capacity. At the Kettering, Oundle and Wellingborough Public Assistance Institutions, considerable numbers of beds in the best blocks were, however, kept vacant. Numerous alterations, adaptations and improvements to the Public Assistance Institutions, particularly Wellingborough Hospital, were carried out to render them more capable of playing their part in the Emergency Hospitals Scheme.

Casualty Bureau. After consultation with the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Northampton, it was decided that the Casualty Bureau for the Town and County of Northampton, should be set up in the County Health Department. The County Borough Council supplied a shorthand-typist, while the main duties of the Bureau are undertaken by a Senior Member of the clerical staff. The duties of the Bureau are briefly as follows :—

1. The preparation of bedstate returns for the Hospital Officer, in respect of hospitals included in the Emergency Hospitals Scheme.
2. The disposal of forms in connection with service sick and casualties, and civilian air raid casualties.

The work is of a somewhat complicated nature, as numerous instructions have to be followed regarding the disposal of forms for each particular type of case. In addition, all Emergency Medical Service Instructions (E.M.S.I.) issued by the Ministry of Health are received from the

Regional Hospital Officer for distribution to the hospitals in the Town and County included in the Emergency Hospitals Scheme.

Civil Nursing Reserve. A Local Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession was set up in March, 1939, consisting of local medical practitioners, hospital matrons and secretaries, and representatives of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and of the Women's Voluntary Services. The functions of the Committee, of which the Chairman and Secretary is the County Medical Officer of Health, are to enrol and register Trained and Assistant Nurses who are free to undertake duties in connection with the Emergency Medical Scheme, and to recruit and train Nursing Auxiliaries. The training of the latter consists of two parts :—

- Part I First Aid and Home Nursing.
- Part II At least 50 hours' practical experience in hospital
or
a course of practical instruction by a District Nurse.

In the training required for Part I, the closest contact has been maintained with the local divisions of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, while for Part II of the training the Committee has been indebted to the matrons of all the hospitals in the County.

Since the inauguration of the Civil Nursing Reserve, 829 applications for training as nursing auxiliaries have been received. These applications were all accepted, but 274 women have not proceeded with their training. The position at 30th September, 1940, was, therefore, as follows.

551 women, comprised of 55 trained Nurses, 44 Assistant Nurses and 452 Nursing Auxiliaries, were registered members of the Reserve. In addition, 70 women were undergoing their training as Nursing Auxiliaries, and a further 33 were awaiting this training.

Of the 551 fully-trained registered members, 33 offered mobile full-time service, 114 were available for full-time duty in this County, and the remaining 404 could be called upon for part-time duty only. 344 of the registered members belonged to the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and 28 to the British Red Cross Society.

ALLOCATION. 79 registered members were allocated for district nursing, 68 to the First Aid Posts and the remainder to the various hospitals throughout the County.

Many women have come forward to undertake their training, and are prepared to serve wherever they are sent. It must be confessed, however, that the number of women who have volunteered for part-time service in their own area is disappointingly large, especially as many of these women live in remote villages. Some have been trained to assist the District Nurse ; this is a useful service, but the number required is limited. The explanation of the relatively small number who have offered whole-time service probably lies in the fact that there were few women without home ties or employment who, by the time the Civil Nursing Reserve was constituted and the appeal for recruits made, had not already enrolled for some other form of National Service : further, as the result of postponement of serious air raids until July, 1940, there was no demand for the services of nurses or auxiliaries, some of whom applied for other branches of National Service, since they were not offered employment as Nursing Auxiliaries.

FIXED FIRST AID POSTS.

<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>Location and Telephone Number.</i>	<i>Medical Officer in Charge, Address and Telephone Number.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health, Address and Telephone Number</i>
BURTON LATIMER URBAN DISTRICT.	Mission Room, Higham Hill. (Burton Latimer 261.)	Dr. A. P. Kingsley, Burton Latimer. (Burton Latimer 225.)	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)
CORBY URBAN DISTRICT.	County Health Clinic, Rockingham Rd. (for First Aid). (Corby 3248.) Samuel Lloyd School (Shower Baths for Cleansing). Abbey Buildings (for First Aid). (Daventry 208.) Grammar School (Shower Baths for Cleansing). Welfare Hut, Recreation Ground. (Desborough 231.)	Dr. J. Irving, " Redhurst," Corby. (Corby 3284.) Dr. W. A. Clements, 29 High Street, Daventry. (Daventry 24.)	Dr. J. T. Murphy. (As above).
DAVENTRY BOROUGH.			Dr. A. R. Darley, West Haddon, Rugby. (Office : Daventry 60.)
DESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.		Dr. W. E. Lock, Desborough, Kettering. (Desborough 286.)	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)
HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH.	Parish Rooms, Midland Road. (Rushden 646.)	Dr. S. Desmond Rieley, 22 College Street, Higham Ferrers. (Rushden 291.)	Dr. D. A. McCracken, Health Dept., Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 and 4043.) Dr. D. A. McCracken. (As above.)
IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.	St. Peter's Schools. (Irthlingborough 113.)	Dr. J. H. McGibbon, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough. (Irthlingborough 60.)	
KETTERING BOROUGH.	Congregational Church Rooms. (Kettering 3622.) Public Baths (Kettering 208811.) Church Sunday School Room (Rothwell 272.)	Dr. A. G. Tolpitt, Montagu Street, Kettering. (Surgery : Kettering 2104.) (Home : Kettering 3062.) Dr. H. C. Pretty, Rockingham Rd., Kettering. (Kettering 2008.) Dr. C. V. Connolly, Rothwell. (Rothwell 300.)	Dr. C. B. Hogg, Manor House, Sheep Street, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2191.)
ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT.			Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)
RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT.	Moor Road School. (Rushden 647.)	Dr. D. G. Greenfield, " Hayway," Rushden. (Rushden 74.) <i>Assisted by :</i> Dr. R. W. Davies, Griffith Street, Rushden. (Rushden 118.), and Dr. O. B. Lean, Griffith St., Rushden. (Rushden 4.) Dr. A. McInnes, Raunds. (Raunds 34.)	Dr. D. A. McCracken, Health Dept., Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 and 4043.)
RAUNDS URBAN DISTRICT.	Labour Club. (Raunds 133.)		Dr. A. McInnes, Raunds. (Raunds 34.)
WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.	Rock Street Council School. (Wellingborough 2943.) Finedon Town Hall. (Finedon 208.)	Dr. J. T. Corbett, 4, Ranelagh Road, Wellingborough. (Wellingborough 2116.) Dr. W. A. G. Bell, Finedon. (Finedon 223.)	Dr. J. Arthur, Wellingborough. (Office : Wellingborough 2446)

MOBILE FIRST AID POSTS.

NOTE : To Summon Post apply to Report Centre.

Town in which situated.	Location and 'phone number.	Garage and 'phone number.	District Served.	Medical Officer i/c., Address and 'phone number.	Medical Officer of Health. Address and 'phone number.	Name of Clerk of Borough or Urban District and 'phone number of Report Centre.
BRACKLEY	Brackley Park Hospital. (Brackley 161.)	Court House, Brackley. (Brackley 68.)	Brackley Borough. Brackley Rural District, the part of Towcester Rural District South West of Watling Street.	Dr. G. N. Stathers, Brackley. (Brackley 22.)	Dr. D. J. Jones, Health Dept., Guildhall Rd., Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 and 4043.)	A. G. Lanham. Brackley 136.
DAVENTRY	The Limes. (Daventry 28.)	Franklin's Garage, Kingsley Avenue, Daventry. (Daventry 70.)	Daventry Borough, Daventry Rural District. Part of Brixworth Rural District West of N'ton-Harborough Road and excluding Boughton, White hills, Church Brampton, Chapel Brampton and Harlestone.	Dr. R. Moser, "The Limes," Daventry. (Daventry 28.)	Dr. A. R. Darley, West Haddon, Rugby. (Office : Daventry 60.)	G. E. Foster. Daventry 60.
KETTERING	Kettering and District General Hospital. (Kettering 2841.)	Northfield Depot, (Kettering 2841).	Kettering Borough, Kettering Rural Dist., Desborough Urban Dist., Corby Urban District, Rothwell Urban Dist., Burton Latimer Urban Dist., Part of Brixworth Rural Dist. East of N'ton.-Harboro' Rd., excluding Boughton, Moulton, Overstone.	Dr. G. Gibbons, Tresham House, Rothwell, Kettering. (Rothwell 315.)	Dr. C. B. Hogg, Manor House, Sheep Street, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2191.)	J. Chaston. Kettering 2806.
OUNDLE	Public Assistance Institution (Oundle 74.)	The School Garage, Oundle. (Oundle 36.)	Oundle Urban District, Oundle & Thrapston Rural Dist. except Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, Hargrave.	Dr. A. F. Elliott, Oundle. (Oundle 11.)	Dr. B. R. Turner, Oundle. (Home : Oundle 30.)	C. A. Pulley. Oundle 190.
WELLING-BOROUGH	Cattle Market Depot, Wellingborough. (Wellingborough 2049.)	Judkins & Sharman, Swanspool Garage, Dulley's Yard. (Wellingborough 2795.)	Wellingborough Urban Dist., Wellingborough Rural Dist., Rushden Urban Dist., Higham Ferrers Borough, Irthlingboro' Urban Dist., Raunds Urban Dist., Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, Hargrave.	Dr. A. C. R. Walton, 19 Castle Street, Wellingborough. (Wellingborough 2309.)	Dr. J. Arthur, Wellingborough. (Office : Wellingborough 2446.)	F. E. Gadd. W'boro' 2446. 3261. 3262.

NOTE : In view of their proximity to Northampton County Borough the undermentioned areas are not served by Mobile First Aid Posts.
The arrangements for these areas are as follows :—
Northampton Rural District served by Mobile First Aid Parties from Hardingstone, Duston and Weston Favell.
Towcester Rural District—The part North-east of Watling Street served by Mobile First Aid Party from Towcester.
Brixworth Rural District—Parishes of Boughton, Church Brampton, Chapel Brampton, Harlestone, Moulton, Overstone, served by Mobile First Aid Parties from Brixworth Rural District.

MOBILE FIRST AID PARTIES AND AMBULANCE SERVICES.

<i>Borough and Urban Districts.</i>	<i>Situation of Depot and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Number of Parties.</i>	<i>Number of Ambulances available.</i>	<i>District Served.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health, address and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Name of Clerk of Borough or Urban Dist. and 'phone number of Report Centre.</i>
BRACKLEY BOROUGH	Winchester House School. (Brackley 55.)	2	3	Brackley Borough. Brackley Rural District, and Parish of Turweston (Bucks) (in conjunction with Parties at Culworth and Middleton Cheney.)	Dr. D. J. Jones, Health Dept., Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 and 4043.)	A. G. Lanham. Brackley 136.
BURTON LATIMER URBAN	First Aid Post, Mission Room, Higham Hill. (Burton Latimer 261.)	2	3	Burton Latimer Urban District. and Parishes of Cranford } Kettering Grafton Underwood } R.D. Isham } Wellingborough Orlbury } R.D.	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)	L. G. Smalley. Burton Latimer 246.
CORBY URBAN	Stewarts & Lloyds' Welfare Hall (Corby 3231.) The Rectory (Corby 2266.)	4	9	Corby Urban District.	Dr. J. T. Murphy, (As above.)	N. D. Bridger-Sage. Corby 2227-8.
DAVENTRY BOROUGH	Warden's Lodge. (Daventry 88.)	4	6	Do.	Dr. A. R. Darley, West Haddon, Rugby. (Office : Daventry 60.)	G. E. Foster. Daventry 60.
DESBOROUGH URBAN	Co-op. Society's Premises.	2	3	Daventry Borough and Daventry Rural District, <i>except</i> Parish of Lilbourne to be served from Borough of Rugby. Desborough Urban District and Parishes of Arthingworth (Brixworth R.D.). Braybrooke } Kettering Brampton Ash } R.D. Stoke Albany } Wilbarston }	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)	G. Greaves, Desborough 217.
HIGHAM FERRERS BOROUGH	First Aid Post, Parish Rooms, Midland Road. (Rushden 646.)	2	3	Higham Ferrers Borough.	Dr. D. A. McCracken, Health Dept., Guildhall Rd., Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 & 4043.)	J. Riseborough Rushden 610, 611.
IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN	First Aid Post, St. Peter's Schools. (Irthlingborough 113.)	2	3	Irthlingborough Urban District and Parishes of Great Addington } Oundle & Little Addington } Thrap'n R.D.	Dr. D. A. McCracken, (As above.)	W. Wilson. Irthlingborough 29.
KETTERING BOROUGH	London Rd. Congregational Church Schools. (Kettering 3622.) St. Andrew's Institute, Northall Street, Kettering. (Kettering 3622 ext.)	5	16	Kettering Borough and Parishes of Broughton Cransley Geddington Pytchley Warkton Weekley	Dr. C. B. Hogg, Manor House, Sheep Street, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2191.)	J. Chaston. Kettering 2806.

Borough and Urban Districts.	Situation of Depot and 'phone number.	Number of Parties	Number of Ambulances available.	District Served.	Medical Officer of Health, address and 'phone number.	Name of Clerk of Borough or Urban Dist. and 'phone number of Report Centre.
OUNDLE URBAN	Board Room, Public Assistance Institution. (Oundle 74.)	2	3	Oundle Urban District and Parishes of	Dr. B. R. Turner, Oundle. (Home : Oundle 30.)	C. A. Pulley. Oundle 190.
				Apethorpe		
				Ashton		
				Barnwell		
				Benefield		
				Blatherwycke		
				Bulwick		
				Cotterstock		
				Deene		
				Deenethorpe		
				Fineshade		
				Fotheringhay		
				Glapthorn		
				Hemington		
				Kings Cliffe		
				Laxton		
				Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe		
				Luddington		
				Lutton and Nassington		
				Pilton		
Polebrook						
Stoke Doyle						
Southwick						
Tansor						
Thurning						
Wadenhoe						
Warmington						
Woodnewton						
Yarwell						
RAUNDS URBAN	First Aid Post, Labour Club. (Raunds 133.)	2	2	Raunds Urban District and Parishes of Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, Hargrave, Ringstead. (Oundle & Thrapston R.D.)	Dr. A. McInnes, Raunds, W'boro'. (Office : Raunds 34.)	R. J. Roddis. Raunds 134.
ROTHWELL URBAN	Urban District Council Offices. (Rothwell 212.)	2	3	Rothwell Urban District and Parishes of	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)	A. Tyldesley. Rothwell 212.
				Harrington		
				Loddington		
				Orton		
				Rushton		
RUSHDEN URBAN	Hawkes' Factory, Portland Road. (Rushden 251.)	4	6	Rushden Urban District and Newton Bromswold. (Wellingborough R.D.)	Dr. D. A. McCracken, Health Dept., Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 & 4043.)	W. L. Beetonson. Rushden 227, 623, 624, 625, 626.
				Podington		
				Wymington } in Bedfordshire.		
WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN	Cattle Market (Wellingborough 2049.) First Aid Post, Finedon Town Hall. (Finedon 208.)	5 2	11	Wellingborough Urban District.	Dr. J. Arthur, Wellingborough. (Office : Wellingboro' 2446.)	F. E. Gadd. Wellingboro' 2446, 3261, 3262.

<i>Rural Districts.</i>	<i>Situation of Depot and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Number of Parties.</i>	<i>Number of Ambulances available.</i>	<i>District Served.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health, address and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Name of Clerk of Rural Dist. and 'phone number of Report Centre.</i>
BRACKLEY RURAL	D'Anvers House, Culworth. (Sulgrave 7.) Charles' Yard, Middleton Cheney. (Mid'ton Cheney 259).	1 1	3	Brackley Rural District, in conjunction with Parties stationed in Brackley Borough.	Dr. D. J. Jones, Health Dept., Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042 and 4043.)	J. H. Parker, Brackley 106. 107.
BRIXWORTH RURAL	Red House, Miss Steele, Guilsborough. (Guilsborough 220). Whitehills Hotel. (Chapel Brampton 248).	1 1	3	Brixworth Rural District <i>except</i> Parishes of Arthingworth (served by Desborough U.D.), East Farndon Marston Trussell, Great Oxendon. (served by Market Harborough U.D.).	Dr. D. J. Jones, (As above.)	H. E. Kingston. Brixworth 292, 293.
DAVENTRY RURAL				Served from Daventry Borough <i>except</i> Parish of Lilbourne, (served from Borough of Rugby.).		
KETTERING RURAL	Old Brewery, Weldon. (Corby 3213.)	2	3	Parishes of Cottingham, East Carlton, Gretton, Middleton, Newton, Oakley, Rockingham, Stanion, Weldon, (Kettering R.D.). Ashley, Dingley, Sutton Bassett, Weston by Welland, (served from Market Harborough U.D.). Cranford, Grafton Underwood, (served from Burton Latimer U.D.). Brampton Ash, Braybrooke, Stoke Albany, Wilbarston, (served from Desborough U.D.). Harrington, Loddington, Orton, Rushton, Thorpe Malsor, (served from Rothwell U.D.). Broughton, Cransley, Geddington, Pytchley, Warkton, Weekley, (served from Kettering Borough).	Dr. J. T. Murphy, 75 London Road, Kettering. (Office : Kettering 2473.)	N. Bridger-Sage. Corby 2227-8.
NORTHAMPTON RURAL	Westonia Garage, Weston Favell. Wootton Workhouse. (Hardingstone 283.) Squirrel Inn, Duston. (Duston 52.)	1 1 1	4	Northampton Rural District.	Dr. H. F. Percival, 2 Spencer Parade, Northampton. (Home : Northampton 788.)	C. E. Jones. Northampton 3624, 3625.

<i>Rural Districts.</i>	<i>Situation of Depot and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Number of Parties.</i>	<i>Number of Ambulances available</i>	<i>District Served.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health, address and 'phone number.</i>	<i>Name of Clerk of Rural Dist. and 'phone number of Report Centre.</i>
OUNDLÉ & THRAPSTON RURAL	Rural District Council Offices, Thrapston. (Thrapston 167.)	2	3	Aldwincle, Brigstock, Clapton, Denford, Islip, Lowick, Sud- borough, Thorpe Achurch, Titch- marsh, Twywell, Woodford, Thrapston. Apethorpe, Ashton, Barnwell, Benefield, Blatherwycke, Bulwick, Cotterstock, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Fotheringhay, Glap- thorn, Hemington, Kings Cliffe, Laxton, Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe, Luddington, Lutton, Nassington, Pilton, Polebrook, Southwick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Wadenhoe, Warmington, Wood- newton, Yarwell, (served from Oundle U.D.). Collyweston, Duddington, Easton- on-the-Hill, (served from Borough of Stamford.) Harringworth, Wakerley, (served from Uppingham. Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, Har- grave, Ringstead, (served from Raunds U.D.). Great Addington, Little Addington, (served from Irthlingborough U.D.).	Dr. A. McInnes, Raunds, Wellingborough. (Office : Raunds 87.)	H. H. Hassall. Thrapston 167.
TOWCESTER RURAL	Old Workhouse, Towcester. (Towcester 31.)	2	3	Towcester Rural District <i>except</i> Parish of Cosgrove, (served from Wolverton U.D.).	Dr. D. A. McCracken, Health Department, Guildhall Road, Northampton. (Office : Northampton 4042, 4043).	J. S. Budge. Towcester 158.
WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL	Labour Hall, Earls Barton. (Earls Barton 277.)	2	3	Parishes of Bozeat, Earls Barton, Easton Maudit, Ecton, Grendon, Great Doddington, Great Harrow- den, Little Harrowden, Hardwick, Irchester, Mears Ashby, Strixton, Sywell, Wilby, Wollaston. Isham, Orlingbury, (served from Burton Latimer U.D.). Newton Bromswold, (served from Rushden U.D.).	Dr. J. Arthur, Wellingborough. (Office : Wellingborough 2380.)	H. C. Horton. Wellingboro' 2979, 2380.

STATISTICAL SECTION.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES. The following table gives particulars of the action taken by the Local Supervising Authority under Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936 :—

	MATERNITY HOMES.	OTHER NURSING HOMES.
Number of applications for registration received during 1939	—	—
Number of Homes registered	—	—
Number of orders made refusing or cancelling registration	—	—
Number of appeals against such orders	—	—
Number of cases in which such orders have been :—		
(a) confirmed on appeal	—	—
(b) disallowed	—	—
Number of applications for exemptions from registration.....	—	2
Number of cases in which exemption has been—		
(a) granted	—	2
(b) withdrawn	—	—
(c) refused	—	—

The registered homes in the County at the time of reporting were (unless otherwise stated) :—

1. “ Brookfield Maternity Home,” Old Rectory, Rushden (Maternity only).
Closed 29th February, 1940.
2. “ Bethel Nursing Home,” Kettering Road North, Northampton.
3. “ The Haven,” Bridge Street, King’s Cliffe (Maternity only).
4. “ Woodfield Nursing Home,” 36, Wellingborough Road, Finedon.
5. “ Burnside Nursing Home,” Brackley.
6. “ Newlyn Nursing Home,” 90, Rockingham Road, Kettering (Maternity only).
7. Lower Addingtons, Evenley. Registered 6th March, 1940.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Normal Resident Population.

NAME OF CENTRE.	AVERAGE NO. OF INFANTS ATTENDING PER SESSION.	AVERAGE NO. OF CONSULTATIONS PER DOCTOR'S ATTENDANCE	ATTENDANCES BY DOCTOR.	SESSIONS.
Brackley	35	29	10	11
Brixworth	32	21	10	11
Burton Latimer	35	22	14	20
Byfield	18	17	20	21
Cold Ashby	20	11	11	11
Corby	37	25	38	44
Cottingham (a)	20	20	3	3
Daventry	15	4	8	14
Desborough	34	21	18	20
Duston	26	35	10	18
Earls Barton	22	19	10	20
Finedon	36	34	12	19
Hackleton	31	17	11	11
Higham Ferrers	38	24	11	18
Irchester	22	5	19	20
Irthlingborough	21	27	7	21
Long Buckby	19	13	9	10
Moulton	26	14	10	10
Potterspury (b).....	38	38	7	7
Raunds	41	25	8	11
Rothwell	30	23	11	22
Rushden.....	66	40	28	41
Towcester	14	17	7	13
Wellingborough	46	32	40	43
Wilbarston (c)	10	10	3	3
Wollaston	30	16	10	20
Woodford (Thrapston).....	17	21	10	17
Weedon (Military) (d)	6	5	4	4

(a) Opened 12th October, 1939.

(b) Closed temporarily 11th July, 1939.

(c) Opened 12th October, 1939.

(d) Closed 18th April, 1939.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES (*continued*).**Special Sessions for Evacuees.**

NAME OF CENTRE.	AVERAGE NO. OF INFANTS ATTENDING PER SESSION.	AVERAGE NO. OF CONSULTATIONS PER DOCTOR'S ATTENDANCE			SESSIONS.
		ATTENDANCE	BY DOCTOR.		
Brackley	5	—	—		1
Burton Latimer	13	16	2		4
Byfield	16	14	2		4
Cold Ashby	8	—	—		1
Desborough	8	7	4		4
Earls Barton	5	—	—		3
Hackleton	14	12	4		4
Higham Ferrers	32	12	4		4
Irchester	6	2	4		6
Irthlingborough	6	—	—		5
Long Buckby	11	—	—		2
Moulton	8	4	2		4
Rothwell	21	20	2		3
Rushden.....	27	8	4		12
Wellingborough	7	—	—		14
Wilbarston.....	5	—	—		2
Wollaston	4	—	—		3

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Return relating to the work of the Dispensaries during the year ending 31st December, 1939.

DIAGNOSIS.	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the beginning of the year	329	248	20	21	38	37	46	49	367	285	66	70	788
B.—Number of new Cases (including Transfers from other areas) diagnosed as Tuberculosis during the year :— (1) Class T.B. Minus (2) Class T.B. Plus	30 55	37 30	5 1	5 3	8	14	17	14	93	81	23	22	219
C.—Number of cases included in A. and B. written off the Dispensary Register during the year : (1) Recovered (2) Dead (all causes) (3) Removed to other Areas (4) For other reasons	18 46 5 1	14 37 21 —	3 — 1 —	8 1 4 —	5 1 1 —	2 1 2 —	7 1 3 —	6 — 2 —	23 47 6 1	16 38 23 —	10 1 4 —	14 1 6 —	190
D.—Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year...	344	243	22	16	39	46	52	55	383	289	74	71	817

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS.—URBAN DISTRICTS.

TABLE I. (a)

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Brackley M.B.		Burton Latimer U.D.		Daventry M.B.		Desboro' U.D.		Higham Ferrers M.B.		Irthling- borough U.D.		Kettering M.B.		Oundle U.D.		Raunds U.D.		Rothwell U.D.		Corby U.D.		Rushden U.D.		Welling- borough U.D.		Aggregate of U.D.'s	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	17	15	26	19	26	23	22	17	31	22	23	26	206	178	17	16	27	18	28	24	32	30	72	80	184	149	711	617		
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Influenza ... ..	...	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
7 Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	9	...
8 Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	1	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	28	...
10 Other tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	...
11 Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	...	2	2	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	23	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
14 Diabetes ... ..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	115	103	...
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	1	2	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	17	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	16	...
16 Heart disease	3	2	2	4	10	11	2	4	13	10	2	6	46	47	4	4	7	1	7	8	7	5	19	23	64	30	186	155	...	
17 Aneurysm ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
18 Other circulatory diseases	1	2	3	...	1	1	1	...	2	3	8	6	4	42	26	...
19 Bronchitis	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	7	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	10	...
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	14	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	17	...
21 Other respiratory diseases	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	10	...
22 Peptic ulcer ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	...
23 Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...
24 Appendicitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...
25 Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
26 Other diseases of liver, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
† 27 Other digestive diseases	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3 ^a	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 ^b	...	...	...	...	2 ^b	4	...
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	15	...
29 Puerperal sepsis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ... ..	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	6	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Senility	2	2	2	24	26	...
33 Suicide	21	29	...
34 Other violence	12	2	...
35 Other defined diseases	24	18	...
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	2	3	7	3	1	2	...	3	21	17	2	68	51	...
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	...	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	1	11	9	1	31	37	...
Deaths of Infants { Total ... } { Legitimate ... } { Illegitimate ... }
Live Births— (a) Infant & Maternal Mortalities (b) Birth Rate	19	13	24	16	28	24	41	20	13	16	36	34	238	217	19	12	25	32	29	34	127	149	117	108	166	162	882	837	...	
For calculation of
Still- births { Total ... } { Legitimate ... } { Illegitimate ... }	1	2	...	1	3	1	2	2	13	11	2	2	43	31	...
Population— (a) For calculation of Birth Rates ... (b) For calculation of Death Rates or the incidence of notifiable diseases	2,323	3,514	3,695	4,402	3,145	4,542	4,497	4,402	3,145	4,542	4,663	35,160	33,920	2,708	4,443	4,446	4,538	5,978	15,200	26,070	114,477	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

† (a) Includes two cases Diarrhoea 2 years and over. (b) Includes one case Diarrhoea 2 years and over.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS.—RURAL DISTRICTS. TABLE I. (b)

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Brackley R.D.		Brixworth R.D.		Daventry R.D.		Kettering R.D.		Northampton R.D.		Oundle and Thrapston R.D.		Towcester R.D.		Welling- borough R.D.		Aggregate of R.D.'s.	
					M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
All Causes					58	61	102	97	103	115	82	57	100	90	102	112	88	82	88	93	723	707
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Measles ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet fever ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	
4 Whooping cough ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
5 Diphtheria ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Influenza					2	1	5	4	4	5	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	...	...	18	15
7 Encephalitis lethargica ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system					...	1	5	3	2	4	4	1	3	2	6	3	1	...	4	2	25	16
10 Other tuberculosis ... ..					...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	4	1	
11 Syphilis					1	1	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	5	3
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..					...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease ...					10	6	13	13	10	14	13	7	16	9	8	14	15	8	17	13	102	84
14 Diabetes ... ..					...	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	7	1	6	1	2	1	1	7	17
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. ...					3	6	4	9	4	4	4	8	1	6	15	12	3	6	5	8	39	59
16 Heart disease					17	17	27	35	32	32	11	9	26	28	22	21	28	21	20	31	183	194
17 Aneurysm ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
18 Other circulatory diseases ...					2	6	7	4	9	14	10	7	11	7	2	5	2	8	2	3	45	54
19 Bronchitis					3	2	5	3	6	3	2	...	1	3	2	4	5	5	2	1	26	21
20 Pneumonia (all forms)					1	2	1	2	4	...	6	5	4	3	3	4	4	3	4	6	27	25
21 Other respiratory diseases ...					...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	4	5	
22 Peptic ulcer ... ..					...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	1	7	3
23 Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ...					...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	3
24 Appendicitis					2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	7	1
25 Cirrhosis of liver ... ..					...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
26 Other diseases of liver, etc. ...					...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	8
† 27 Other digestive diseases					1	1	3 ^a	1	2 ^a	5 ^a	2	2	4	2	...	3	3	1 ^a	1 ^a	2	16	17
28 Acute and chronic nephritis ...					...	1	5	4	9	8	3	1	5	2	4	2	3	4	2	3	31	25
29 Puerperal sepsis ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal diseases ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ...					4	3	2	1	2	3	2	4	3	4	8	2	...	2	2	3	23	22
32 Senility					4	6	3	8	4	3	2	3	2	6	11	16	10	6	2	4	38	52
33 Suicide					2	...	1	...	...	1	4	...	2	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	12	3
34 Other violence					3	2	5	2	8	2	5	...	8	5	3	3	3	1	6	2	41	17
35 Other defined diseases					2	5	8	5	4	10	4	3	9	3	7	8	2	9	10	10	46	53
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown ...					1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	1	7	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year																						
{ Total					2	4	4	3	2	6	5	7	6	4	8	4	3	4	2	5	32	37
{ Legitimate					2	4	4	3	2	6	5	7	6	4	7	4	3	4	2	4	31	36
{ Illegitimate ... ..					...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
For calculation of	Live Births—																					
	(a) Infant & Maternal Mortalities	{ Total	55	61	128	120	117	109	127	125	121	99	146	106	91	93	85	88	870	801		
		{ Legitimate	50	57	125	117	115	102	124	122	119	96	141	100	88	91	81	83	843	768		
		{ Illegitimate	5	4	3	3	2	7	3	3	2	3	5	6	3	2	4	5	27	33		
	(b) Birth Rate	{ Total	51	60	126	117	115	107	127	125	111	91	146	106	91	93	85	86	852	785		
		{ Legitimate	46	56	123	115	113	100	124	122	109	88	141	100	88	91	81	81	825	753		
{ Illegitimate		5	4	3	2	2	7	3	3	2	3	5	6	3	2	4	5	27	32			
Still- births	{ Total ... ..	...	1	9	...	2	5	9	4	5	3	4	1	1	7	4	2	34	23			
	{ Legitimate ... ..	...	1	9	...	2	5	9	4	4	3	3	1	1	7	4	2	32	23			
	{ Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...			
Population—																						
(a) For calculation of Birth Rates ...					8,190		14,960		14,860		12,413		15,760		16,000		12,930		12,510		107,623	
(b) For calculation of Death Rates or the incidence of notifiable diseases					8,390		15,490		15,040		12,690		16,580		16,160		13,020		12,830		110,200	

† (a) Includes one case of Diarrhœa 2 years and over.

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS												AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS											
		All Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	All Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
		711 617	31 37	3 4	4 2	10 9	13 11	25 26	49 34	54 48	108 80	185 137	229 229	723 707	32 37	3 5	3 4	11 4	16 9	20 21	32 24	56 39	109 89	184 181	257 294
ALL CAUSES	M. F.	711 617	31 37	3 4	4 2	10 9	13 11	25 26	49 34	54 48	108 80	185 137	229 229	723 707	32 37	3 5	3 4	11 4	16 9	20 21	32 24	56 39	109 89	184 181	257 294
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Measles	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet Fever	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping cough	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria	M. F.	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Influenza	M. F.	13 9	...	...	...	...	1	2 1	1	2	1	5 1	2 3	18 15	...	...	...	...	1	1 2	...	2 2	3 1	5 4	6 6
7 Encephalitis lethargica	M. F.	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	M. F.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M. F.	27 28	...	...	...	...	3 6	5 6	9 11	4 2	6 1	...	...	25 16	...	...	...	...	3 4	6 5	6 3	2 1	2...	...	...
10 Other tuberculosis	M. F.	7 4	...	...	...	3 1	2	1 2	1	...	...	...	...	4 1	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
11 Syphilis	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1 1	2 1	1...	...	...
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	M. F.	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease	M. F.	115 103	...	...	...	...	...	1 2	7 9	10 16	24 21	44 26	29 29	102 84	...	...	1	...	...	1 ...	2 4	9 6	21 19	39 20	29 35
14 Diabetes	M. F.	8 16	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3 3	1 4	3 7	7 17	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1 5	3 7	1 5	...
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.....	M. F.	42 54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 4	10 8	13 20	15 21	39 59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 7	9 28	19 21	...
16 Heart disease	M. F.	186 155	...	...	...	...	...	4 2	6	16 12	20 17	57 43	83 81	183 194	...	...	1	...	1 2	5 4	11 7	28 23	54 49	82 105	...
17 Aneurysm	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
18 Other circulatory diseases	M. F.	42 26	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7 2	12 9	22 14	45 54	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1	1 5	12 14	31 33	...

TABLE II. (continued).
CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS												AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS											
		All Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—												
			0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	All Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
19 Bronchitis.....	M. F.	20 10	1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	7 3	10 5	26 21	1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2	7 6	16 10
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	M. F.	30 17	2 5	3 1	...	...	...	1 1	3 1	4 ...	1 1	9 1	7 4	27 25	2 4	...	1 ...	1 1	...	...	3 1	...	2 2	6 7	7 8
21 Other respiratory diseases	M. F.	12 10	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	1 1	...	4 1	2 2	4 3	4 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	...	1 3	...	...
22 Peptic ulcer	M. F.	12 1	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	3 ...	...	2 ...	3 ...	3 ...	7 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	...	3 2	...	1
23 Diarrhoea under 2 years.....	M. F.	1 3	1 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 3	3 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24 Appendicitis	M. F.	4 4	...	...	...	...	1 ...	...	...	2 1	...	1 ...	...	7 1	...	...	...	...	1 ...	2 ...	1 ...	...	...	...	1
25 Cirrhosis of liver	M. F.	2 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1	...	1 ...	2 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1...	...
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	M. F.	1 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 Other digestive diseases	M. F.	4 6	...	...	...	1 ...	...	...	1 1	...	...	1 ...	1 3	13 15	...	1 ...	...	1 1	...	...	...	1 1	2 3	2 6	3 1
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	M. F.	12 15	...	...	...	1 ...	...	...	3 1	1 3	3 3	3 2	1 4	31 25	...	1 ...	...	2 ...	1 ...	...	4 1	2 6	9 5	7 5	5 8
29 Puerperal sepsis	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal diseases	F.	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	M. F.	24 26	23 26	...	...	1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 22	21 22	...	...	1 ...	...	...	...	...	1...	...	...
32 Senility	M. F.	21 29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 3	19 26	38 52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 9	35 43
33 Suicide	M. F.	12 2	...	...	...	...	1 ...	2 ...	...	2 ...	2 2	4 ...	1 ...	12 3	...	...	...	...	1 ...	2 ...	1 1	...	6 1	1 1	1 ...
34 Other violence	M. F.	24 18	...	...	...	4 1	1 1	2 2	3 1	3 ...	2 4	6 2	3 7	41 17	1 1	1 1	...	2 ...	5 2	4 1	3 ...	8 2	5 3	4 6	...
35 Other defined diseases	M. F.	68 51	4 3	...	2 ...	1 2	3 2	4 2	5 4	3 4	16 5	11 14	19 14	46 53	2 3	...	...	1 2	1 1	1 4	2 4	2 6	5 9	17 12	15 10
36 Causes ill-defined, or unknown ...	M. F.	16 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 1	...	4 1	3 1	6 8	7 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	5 2	...	...
Diarrhoea 2 years and over	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 ...	1 ...	...	...	1 ...

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1939.
(52 weeks ended 31st December, 1939)

TABLE III.

DISEASES.	URBAN DISTRICTS.												RURAL DISTRICTS.								Totals for Administrative County				
	Brackley (Borough)	Daventry (Borough)	Higham Ferrers (Boro')	Kettering (Borough)	Burton Latimer	Corby	Desborough	Irlingham	Oundle	Raunds	Rothwell	Rushden	Wellingborough	Totals for Combined Urban Districts	Brackley	Brixworth	Daventry	Kettering	Northampton	Oundle and Thrapston		Towcester	Wellingborough	Totals for Combined Rural Districts	
†Small Pox ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76	16	29	13	14	30	10	4	8	124	200
†Scarlet Fever ...	—	4	2	22	2	5	1	—	1	—	—	9	24	37	2	2	2	3	3	7	13	2	4	36	73
†Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	3	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	10	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8
†Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	6	11	46	—	5	2	1	—	8	2	—	4	24	70
†Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	20	—	2	2	4	—	—	1	2	1	15	2	2	—	—	2	2	2	2	—	10	25
†Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	1	10	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	13	20	88	1	8	5	6	29	11	13	6	3	79	167
†Pneumonia ...	—	—	5	32	7	1	—	9	1	—	—	—	1	4	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	9	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	—	4	3	23	1	4	2	6	—	2	1	19	15	80	1	7	7	4	12	10	8	10	59	139	
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	2	2	—	1	2	1	—	1	1	6	10	27	—	2	2	2	8	4	2	—	20	47	
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (believed to have been contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	8	9	14	122	11	20	10	21	4	5	3	65	91	383	23	57	35	31	99	52	31	35	363	746	

† The notifications shewn in respect of these diseases are as furnished by the Registrar-General : the remaining notifications shewn on the table are compiled from the weekly Returns of the District Medical Officers of Health.

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